

SPINE-TINGLING TALES OF MYSTERY AND SUSPENSE

QUALITY
COMICS
PUBLICATION

100
11

WEB OF EVIL

NOVEMBER No. 8

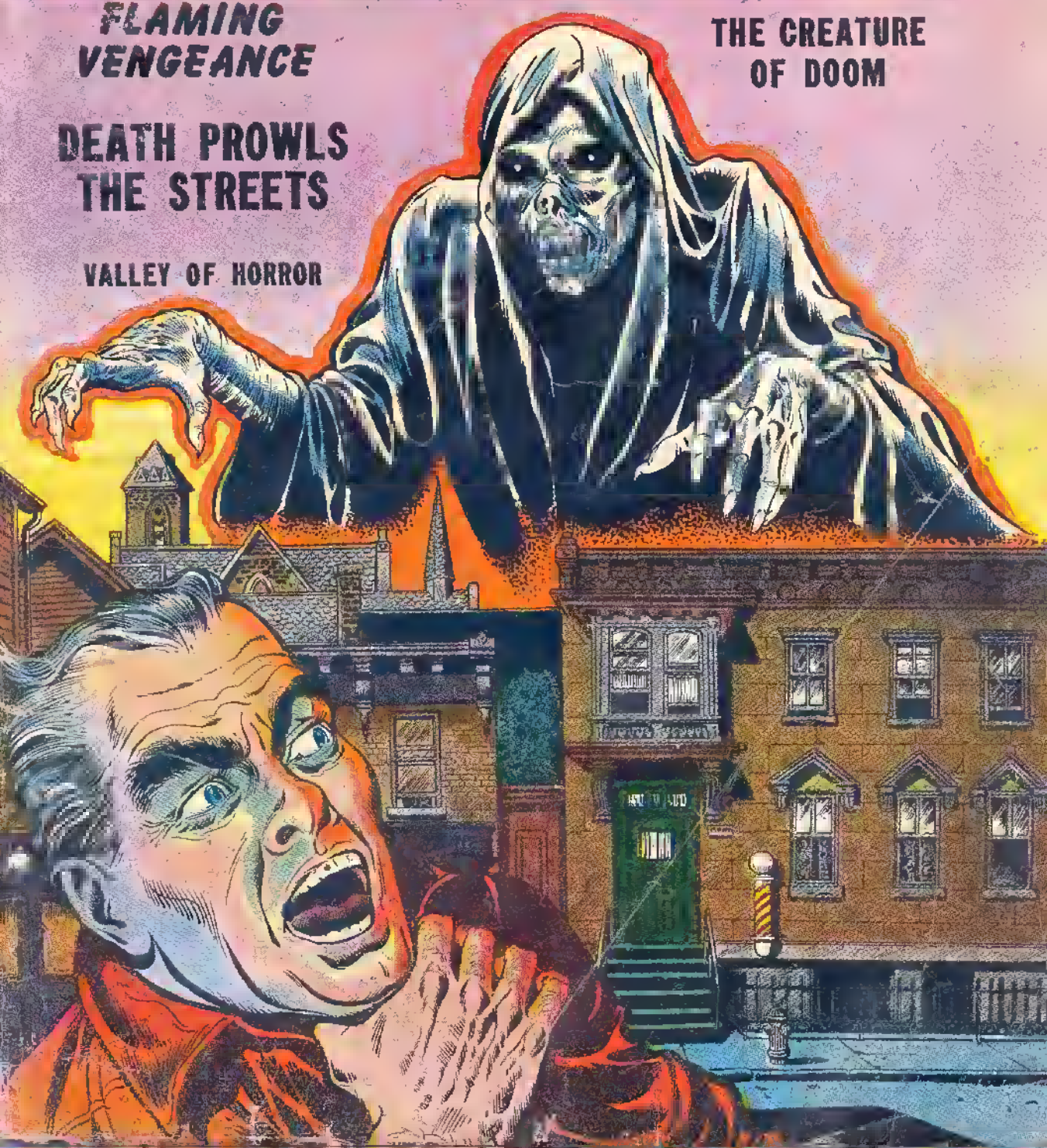
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**FLAMING
VENGEANCE**

**THE CREATURE
OF DOOM**

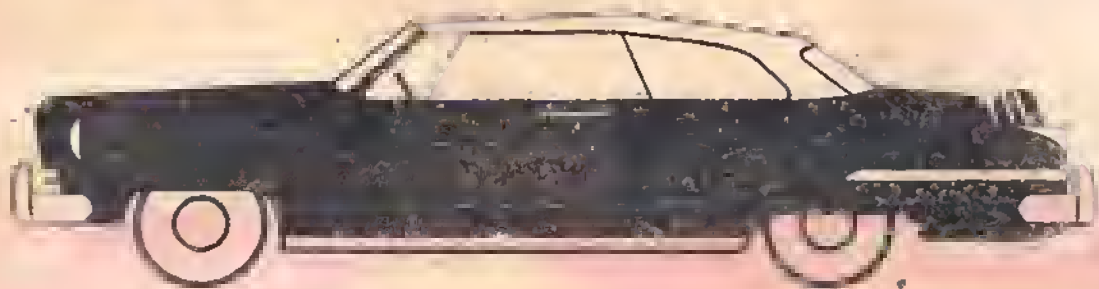
**DEATH PROWL
THE STREETS**

VALLEY OF HORROR



The image features a dense background collage of vintage comic book covers. Titles visible include "Supermouse", "Jetta", "Mystery Comics", "Fantastic Tales", "Cosmo Cat", "Startling Comics", "Strange Mysteries", "Daring Adventures", "Famous Funnies", "Ha Ra", "Teen-Age Sweetheart", "Duck", "Eerie", "Exciting Comics", "Casper Cat", and "Barnyard Comics". The covers depict various genres such as superhero action, mystery, science fiction, and humor. Overlaid on this collage is a large, dark purple speech bubble with a thick black outline. Inside the bubble, the text "WEB COMIC UNIVERSE.COM" is written in a bold, white, sans-serif font with a slight drop shadow effect.

Draw This Car



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AMATEURS ONLY! Our students not eligible. Make copy of car 8 ins. long. Pencil or pen only. Omit the lettering. All drawings must be received by Sept. 30, 1953. None returned. Winners notified.

USE ONLY ONE COUPON... Leave the other coupons so your friends can also enter drawings. Pass this ad on to your friends. Maybe they'll win prizes, TOO!

Art Instruction, Inc., Dept. 8903-1
500 S. 4th., Minneapolis 15, Minn.

Please enter my attached drawing
in your Draw a Car contest.
(PLEASE PRINT)

Name _____ Age _____
Address _____ Phone _____
City _____
Zone _____ County _____
State _____ Occupation _____

Art Instruction, Inc., Dept. 8903-2
500 S. 4th., Minneapolis 15, Minn.

Please enter my attached drawing
in your Draw a Car contest.
(PLEASE PRINT)

Name _____ Age _____
Address _____ Phone _____
City _____
Zone _____ County _____
State _____ Occupation _____

Art Instruction, Inc., Dept. 8903-3
500 S. 4th., Minneapolis 15, Minn.

Please enter my attached drawing
in your Draw a Car contest.
(PLEASE PRINT)

Name _____ Age _____
Address _____ Phone _____
City _____
Zone _____ County _____
State _____ Occupation _____

CREATURE of DOOM



NEW MEXICO'S GREATEST ATOMIC-BOMB TEST HAD GONE OFF ON SCHEDULE A SQUARE MILE OF DESERT LASHED BY THE RAGING FURY OF THE BLAST! THEN OUT OF THE GREAT CLOUD STUMBLED A SHINING HORROR ... A THING NEITHER DEAD NOR ALIVE HALF MAN, HALF MONSTER ... EXISTING ONLY TO WREAK A TERRIBLE VENGEANCE ON THOSE WHO HAD DOOMED HIM TO DESTRUCTION ON THE BLAZING SANDS OF A MAN-MADE HELL!

AT 31 PAUL ALLEN WAS RATED ONE OF THE WORLD'S TOP NUCLEAR PHYSICISTS! THIS TEST WOULD BE HIS CROWNING TRIUMPH...

A B-36 WITH A PICKED CREW WOULD DELIVER THE EARTH-SHAKING MONSTER TO ITS DESERT TARGET!

YOU'LL MAKE YOUR BOMB RUN AT 30,000 FEET! THE RADAR CONTROLS WILL TAKE OVER THE ACTUAL DROP!



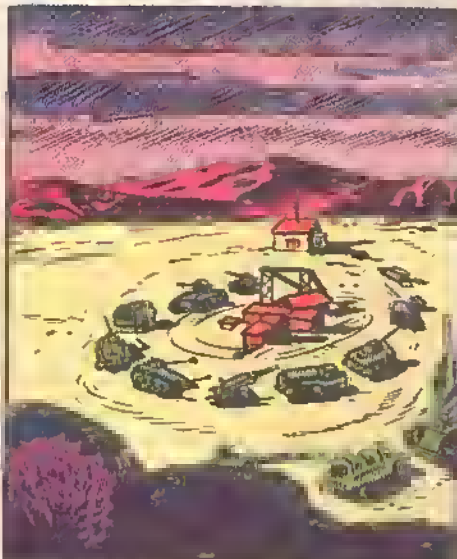
Los Alamos News

ATOM BOMB TEST SET FOR TOMORROW

DR. PAUL ALLEN IN FULL CHARGE OF TOP SECRET BLAST TEST!



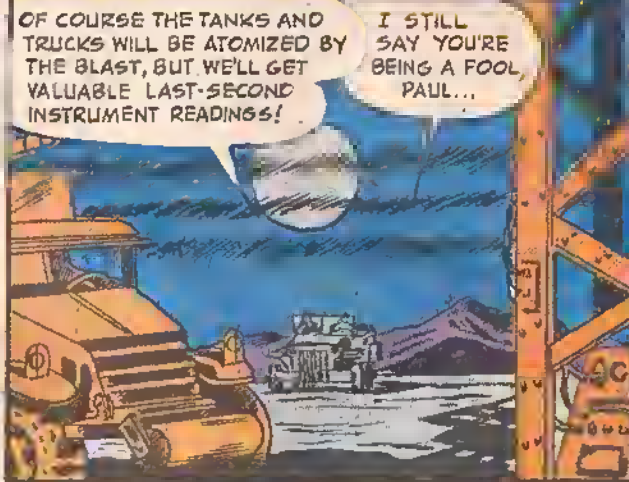
THE TARGET WAS A NETWORK OF INSTRUMENTS OF DR. PAUL ALLEN'S OWN DESIGN! AROUND IT WERE MILITARY VEHICLES TO TEST THE TERRIBLE DESTRUCTIVE POWER OF THE BOMB!



AT DAWN PAUL ALLEN MADE HIS FINAL CHECK OF THE TARGET AREA WITH HIS ASSISTANT, DR. RENNI SERB...

OF COURSE THE TANKS AND TRUCKS WILL BE ATOMIZED BY THE BLAST, BUT WE'LL GET VALUABLE LAST-SECOND INSTRUMENT READINGS!

I STILL SAY YOU'RE BEING A FOOL, PAUL...



WE'VE WORKED TOGETHER FOR OVER A YEAR! CERTAINLY YOU CAN TRUST ME WITH THE SECRET OF THIS SPECIAL TEST!

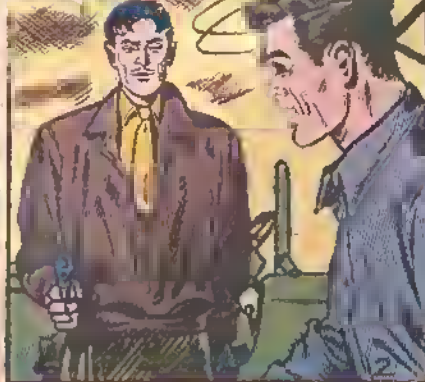
IT ISN'T THAT I DON'T TRUST YOU, RENNI! I WOULDN'T BURDEN ANYONE WITH SUCH DANGEROUS KNOWLEDGE!

RED AGENTS HAVE WARNED ME IF I DON'T REVEAL MY SECRET, I'LL BE KILLED TO DESTROY MY USEFULNESS!

AND THEY MEAN IT, PAUL...

THIS IS YOUR LAST CHANCE! TELL US THE SECRET OF THE NEW BOMB OR YOU'LL NEVER LEAVE HERE ALIVE!

RENNI! YOU... YOU'RE ONE OF THEM!



OF COURSE! I WAS PLANTED IN AMERICA YEARS AGO FOR JUST SUCH WORK AS THIS! IF WE CAN'T HAVE YOUR SECRET, NO ONE ELSE WILL EVER USE IT! YOU RED RAT! YOU'D BETTER KILL ME, RENNI, BECAUSE IF YOU DON'T, I'LL STRANGLE YOU WITH MY BARE HANDS!



I WARNED YOU, FOOL...!



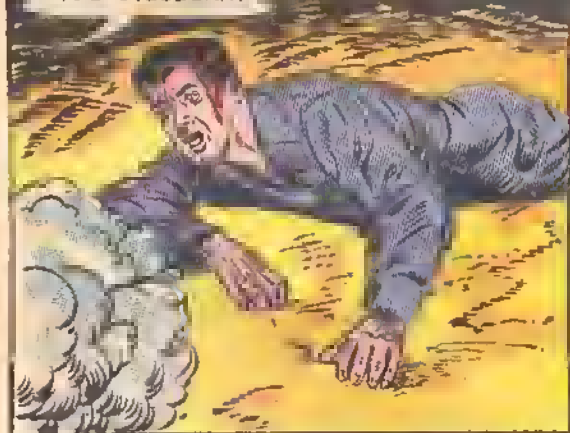
YOU'LL N-NEVER... GET BY... WITH THIS! IT'S... MURDER!

DON'T BE STUPID! I'LL CLAIM YOU RAN BACK TO FIX SOMETHING AND GOT CAUGHT IN THE BLAST! THEY WON'T FIND ENOUGH OF YOU TO PROVE ANYTHING!

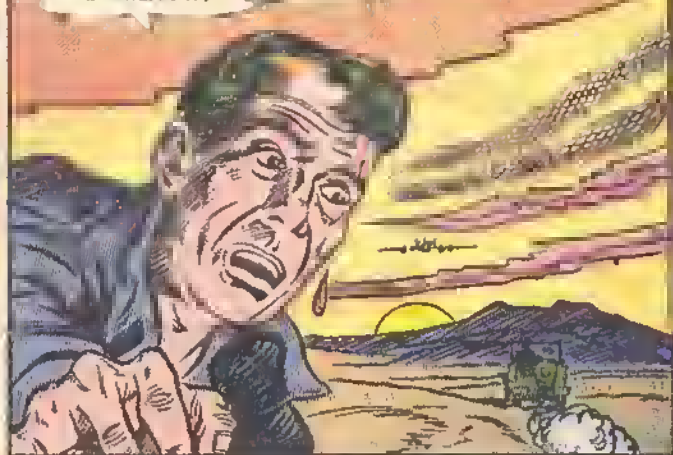


THAT BEAUTIFUL WIFE OF YOURS... GENA SHE IS ONE OF US, TOO! PAUL! SHE TRIED TO GET YOUR SECRET BUT YOU WERE TOO STUBBORN!

LIES! LIES!



THE BOMB... IT IS DUE TO DROP... IN HALF AN HOUR! I'M RIGHT... UNDER IT! BUT I'LL PAY THEM BACK... SOMEHOW! I SWEAR IT!

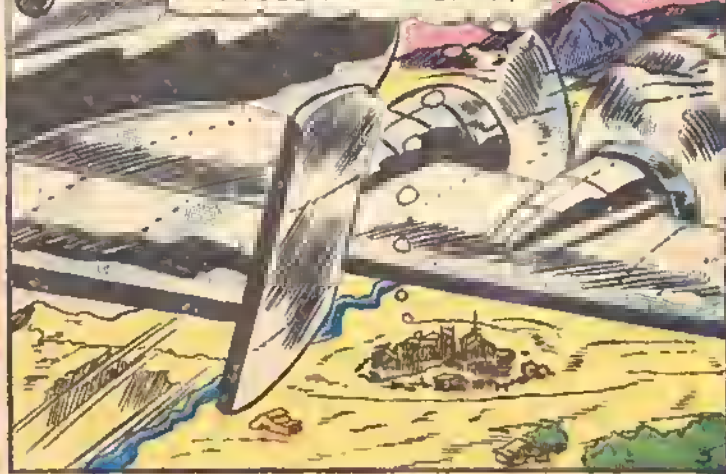


ALL PERSONNEL ACCOUNTED FOR! TARGET AREA CHECKED AND CLEAR! GO AHEAD WITH THE BOMB DROP!

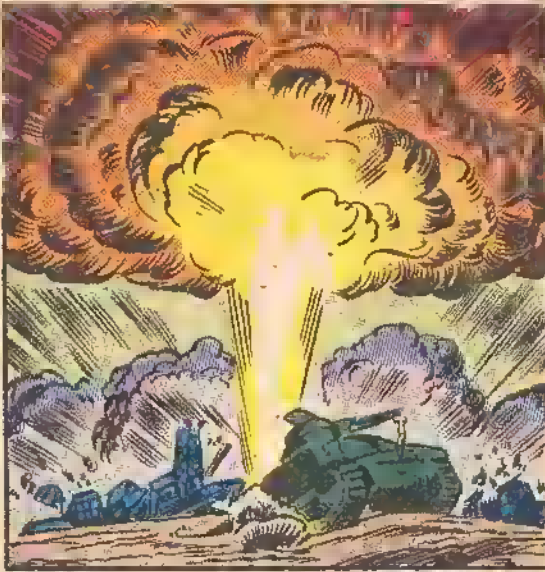
CONTROL TOWER



THE BOMBER! RENNI ORDERED THE DROP! THEY'D NEVER SEE ME FROM 30,000 FEET! I'M DOOMED... OOOOMED!



AT 1,500 FEET THE BOMB EXPLODED, SHAKING EARTH AND SKY, WIPING OUT TONS OF ARMORED STEEL TARGET VEHICLES IN A BLAZE OF AWFUL ATOMIC FURY...



A SHORT TIME LATER--

AN IMPORTANT INSTRUMENT WASN'T REGISTERING! HE WAS LIKE A MAD-MAN! HE KNOCKED ME ASIDE AND RAN OUT... AND THEN CAME THE BOMB BLAST!

PAUL WAS LIKE THAT! THE TEST MEANT EVERYTHING TO HIM! YOU COULDN'T HELP IT, DR. SERB!



THERE'S NOTHING WE CAN DO! IT WILL BE AT LEAST 48 HOURS BEFORE ANYONE CAN VENTURE INTO THE RADIO-CTIVE ZONE! WE'D FIND NOTHING ANYHOW! I SAW AN 80-TON TANK, HALF A MILE FROM THE CENTER, TURN INTO VAPOR AND DISAPPEAR!



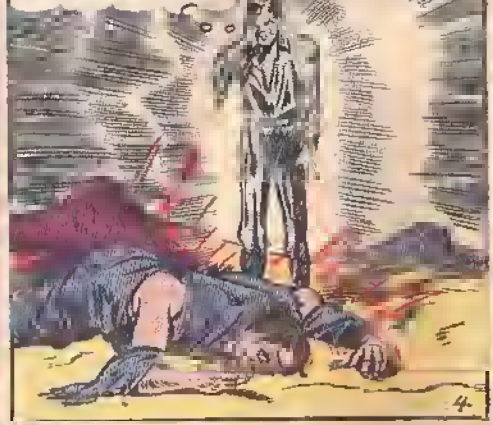
BUT AT THAT MOMENT--



IT'S OVER AND I'M STILL ALIVE! THERE WAS AN ETERNITY OF FLAME AND FURY AND AWFUL HEAT... AND NOW THIS TERRIBLE SILENCE!



I... I MUST BE DEAD! IS THIS DEATH? I CAN SEE AND HEAR AND FEEL... BUT THE AWFUL, BLASTED HULK OF MY BODY LIES MOTIONLESS, GLOWING WITH RADIOACTIVITY!



IF I AM DEAD, RENN! KILLED ME! I MUST FIND THAT MURDERING VULTURE AND... WHY, JUST THE THOUGHT SENDS ME FLYING THROUGH THE AIR! I AM A GHOST AND I'M FLYING STRAIGHT TO THE MAN WHO KILLED ME!



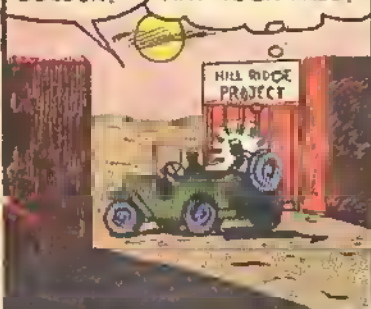
YOU'RE UPSET, DR. SERB, AND NO WONDER! YOU GO ON HOME AND REST! WE'LL TAKE CARE OF THINGS HERE!

NO! NO! HE'S ONLY FAKING! HE MURDERED ME! HE'S A RED AGENT.. OH, IT'S NO USE! NO ONE HEARS ME.. OR FEELS MY TOUCH!



WAIT TILL I TELL MY PEOPLE HOW EASY THIS WAS! MAYBE WE'VE BEEN TOO CAUTIOUS WITH OUR WE CAN BE BOLDER!

FOUL TRAITOR! I'LL RIDE ALONG AND DISCOVER YOUR WHOLE FILTHY NETWORK BEFORE I FIND DESTROY YOU AND YOUR PALS!



WHY-- WHY THIS IS MY HOUSE! HE'S GOING TO SEE GENA! BUT WAIT... HE SAID SHE WAS A RED AGENT, TOO! BUT HE LIED, JUST TO TORTURE ME! HE MUST HAVE LIED...



DEAREST, IT'S DONE! HE'S DEAD AND I'LL SURELY GET THE ORDER OF STALIN FOR SETTING BACK AMERICAN ATOMIC PROGRESS!

MY DARLING, MY DARLING! THEN SOON WE CAN STOP THIS AWFUL PRETENSE AND BE BACK TOGETHER ONCE AGAIN!



YOU DON'T KNOW HOW I'VE SUFFERED WITH THAT STUPID FOOL, TRYING TO MAKE HIM REVEAL HIS SECRETS!

NEVER MIND! YOU DID THE BEST YOU COULD, GENA! HE WAS A STUBBORN CAPITALIST TOOL AND FOR THEM THERE IS ONLY DESTRUCTION!



COMISSAR KLEY WILL MEET US HERE AT MIDNIGHT FOR A FULL REPORT! IF HE IS SEEN, YOU CAN SAY HE IS A FRIEND OF PAUL'S WHO CAME TO OFFER CONDOLENCES!

TONIGHT! THEY'LL BE TOGETHER TONIGHT WITH THE TOP AGENT, THE ONE WHO ORDERED MY MURDER!



UNTIL
TONIGHT,
BABUSHKA!

MONSTER! MURDERER!
OH, I CAN'T GRASP HIS
LYING, CHEATING THROAT!
I'M AS HELPLESS AS THE
MIST AT
NIGHTFALL...



HALF MAD WITH HIS BURNING THIRST
FOR VENGEANCE, PAUL ALLEN MADE
EVERY EFFORT TO FORCE AWARENESS
ONTO THE SMILING KILLER!

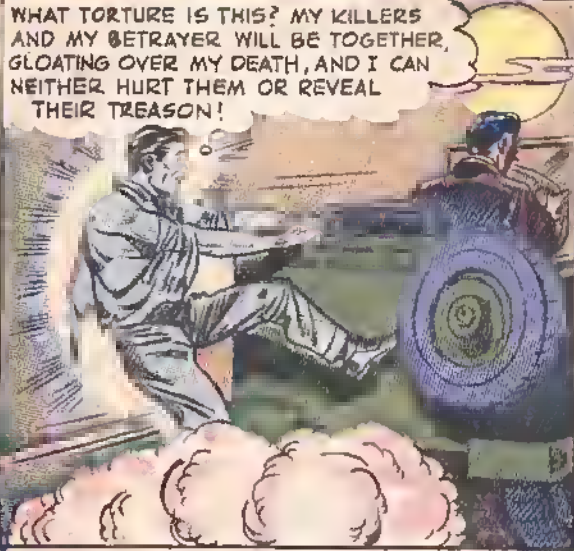
STOP! STOP! IT'S NO USE! HE CAN'T
FEEL OR SEE ME! THERE MUST
BE SOME-
THING
I CAN
INFLUENCE!



IF I COULD STOP THE CAR SOMEHOW..
BUT I CAN'T GRASP ANYTHING! IT'S
STARTING AND I'M POWERLESS
TO HALT IT!



WHAT TORTURE IS THIS? MY KILLERS
AND MY BETRAYER WILL BE TOGETHER,
GLOATING OVER MY DEATH, AND I CAN
NEITHER HURT THEM OR REVEAL
THEIR TREASON!



HIS
RAGING
THOUGHTS
CAUGHT
HIM UP
AND SWEEP
HIM TO THE
BEDROOM
THAT HAD
BEEN HIS
OWN...
TO THE
MOCKERY
OF
LAUGHTER
HE
COULD
NOT
STILL...

LA-LA-LA! I HAVE TO
WEAR WIDOW'S BLACK
FOR THAT STUPID
PAUL.. BUT IT DOESN'T
HAVE TO BE UGLY
BLACK!

CHEAT! LIAR! I
TRUSTED YOU ...
LOVED YOU! NOW
I UNDERSTAND WHY
YOU BEGGED ME TO
TELL YOU MORE
ABOUT MY WORK,
PAUL!



I'LL GO MAD WITH KNOWING AND HATING .. AND
BEING SO POWERLESS! I'M A GHOST ... AND
I NEVER BELIEVED IN GHOSTS...



BUT WAIT! I CAN'T BE
DEAD OR I'D MEET
OTHER PHANTOMS!
I'M IN SOME EMPTY
HALF-WORLD, BE-
TWEEN LIFE AND
DEATH, SHARING
BOTH BUT PART
OF NEITHER!



IT MUST BE SOME EFFECT OF THE ATOM BLAST! IT DROVE MY PSYCHE.. MY SOUL .. OUT OF MY BODY BEFORE IT DIED! THEN.. PERHAPS THERE IS ONE MATERIAL THING I CAN STILL CONTROL...



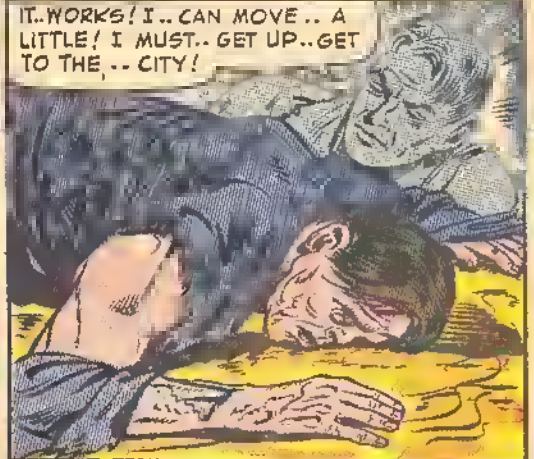
WITH THE FLEETING SPEED OF THOUGHT, PAUL'S PHANTOM FORM SWEEPED OUT ACROSS THE DESERT, BACK TO THE STILL-DEADLY SPOT BENEATH THE ATOM BLAST!

MY OWN SHATTERED BODY! I MOVED IT ONCE, UP OUT OF THE CRATER! IF I CAN MOVE IT AGAIN, I'LL MAKE IT MY INSTRUMENT OF VENGEANCE!

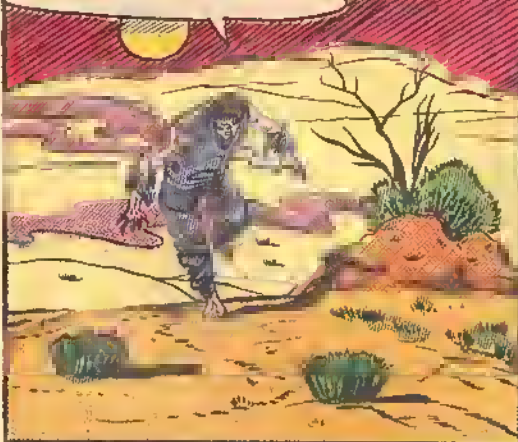


HE DRIFTED INTO THE FRIGHTFUL CADAVER, FITTING HIMSELF TO THE FAMILIAR LINES, FORCING ALL THE EFFORT AT HIS COMMAND INTO THE TASK OF MOVING! AND...

IT..WORKS! I.. CAN MOVE.. A LITTLE! I MUST.. GET UP..GET TO THE.. CITY!



THE DAY IS.. WANING.. AND I'M NOT HALFWAY .. THERE! MY STRENGTH IS FAILING .. MY BODY.. IF I COULD REACH THE .. HIGHWAY...



IT WAS EVENING WHEN AT LAST HE CAME TO THE ALAMAGORDO HIGHWAY

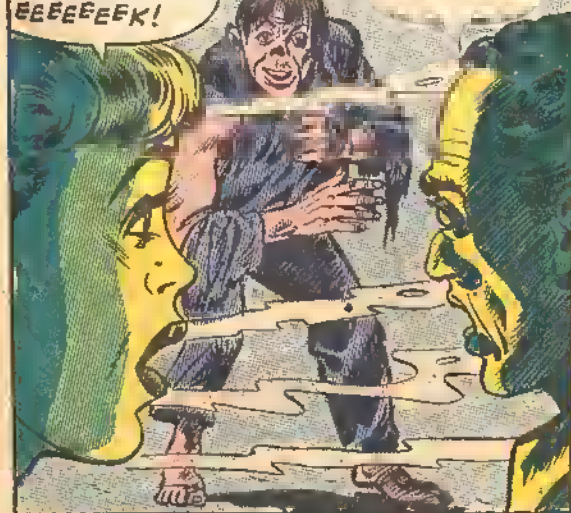
STOP GRIPING! I'VE GOT THE TIRE CHANGED! WE'LL BE ON OUR WAY AS SOON AS I LOAD THE SPARE!

A CAR..! I MUST HAVE.. IT! CAN'T GO.. ON .. MUCH LONGER .. ON FOOT!



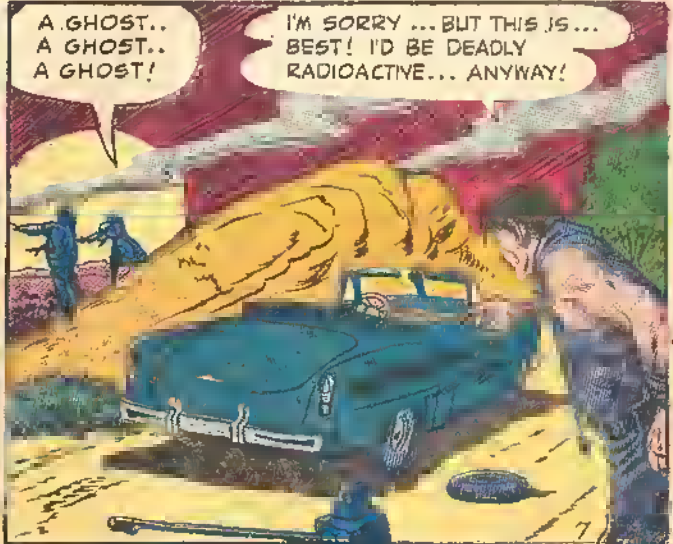
WHAT'S THAT...? EEEEEEK!

EEEEAAA!

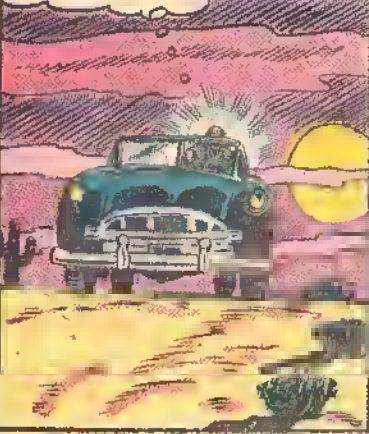


A GHOST.. A GHOST.. A GHOST!

I'M SORRY ... BUT THIS IS... BEST! I'D BE DEADLY RADIOACTIVE... ANYWAY!

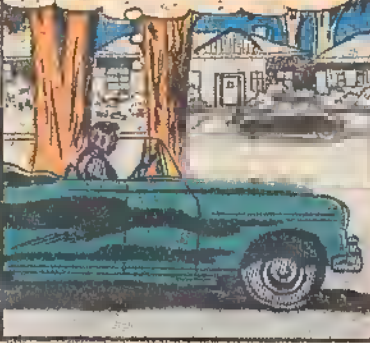


THIS IS EASIER! DRIVING SAVES MY STRENGTH FOR THE TASK AHEAD .. WHEN I MEET THOSE THREE FACE TO FACE AT LAST!



SLOWLY.. CAREFULLY.. AVOIDING BUSY STREETS, PAUL REACHED THE QUIET NEIGHBORHOOD WHERE HE HAD LIVED

I'M EARLY, BUT RENNI'S CAR IS ALREADY THERE! BUT I MUST WAIT FOR THE THIRD ONE .. THE AGENT HE CALLED KLEV!



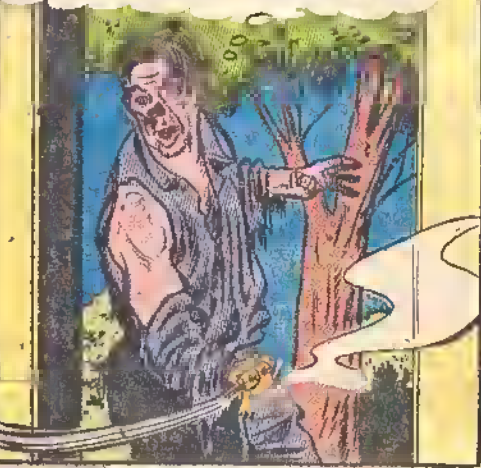
THE WAIT WAS NOT LONG ...!

COME INSIDE! GENA, THIS IS COMRADE COMISSAR KLEV OF THE MYD!

BE QUIET FOOL ... AND TURN OFF THE LIGHT! WOULD YOU ADVERTISE OUR MEETING TO THE WHOLE CITY?

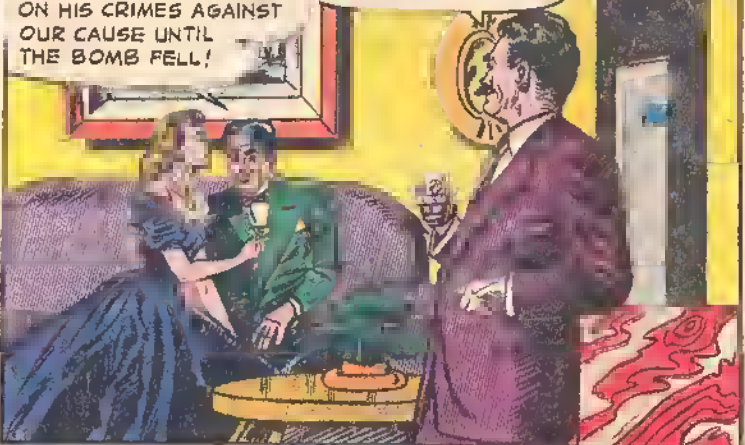


THE DOOR IS LOCKED ... BUT NO LOCK ON EARTH CAN KEEP ME OUT NOW .. NOT WHEN THEY ARE TOGETHER INSIDE!



.. AND HE WAS NOT DEAD, BUT ONLY PARALYZED! I LEFT HIM THERE TO MEDITATE ON HIS CRIMES AGAINST OUR CAUSE UNTIL THE BOMB FELL!

GOOD! THEN YOU ARE ABOVE SUSPICION AND FREE TO GO ON WORKING WITH THEIR SCIENTISTS, KEEP US INFORMED OF THEIR SECRETS!



I WISH I COULD HAVE SEEN HIS FACE BEFORE HE DIED! I WOULD HAVE LAUGHED AS I TOLD HIM THE TRUTH .. AWRRRK! ..

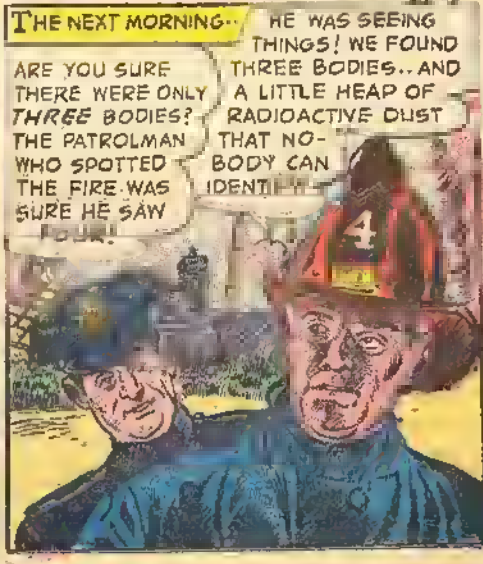
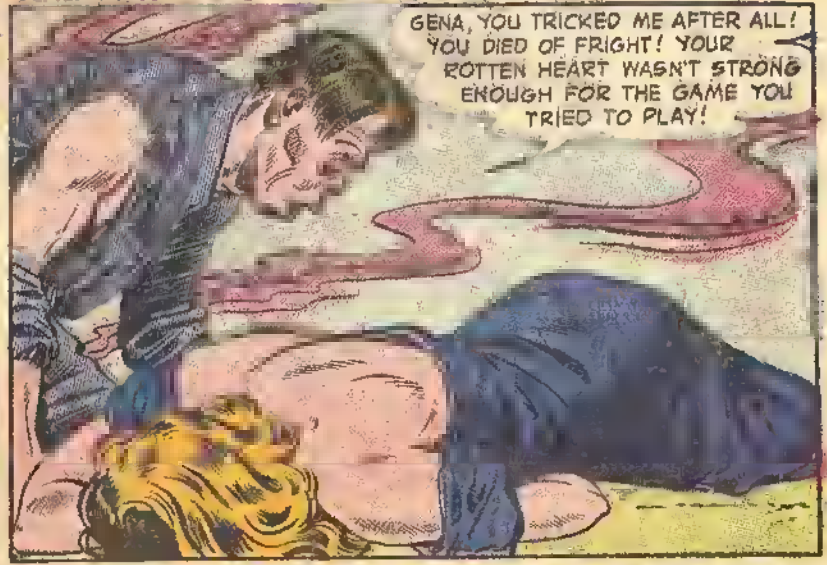
WOULD YOU, MY DEAR WIFE?



LAUGH, GENA! THIS IS MY FACE AS YOU MADE IT! WHY DON'T YOU LAUGH?

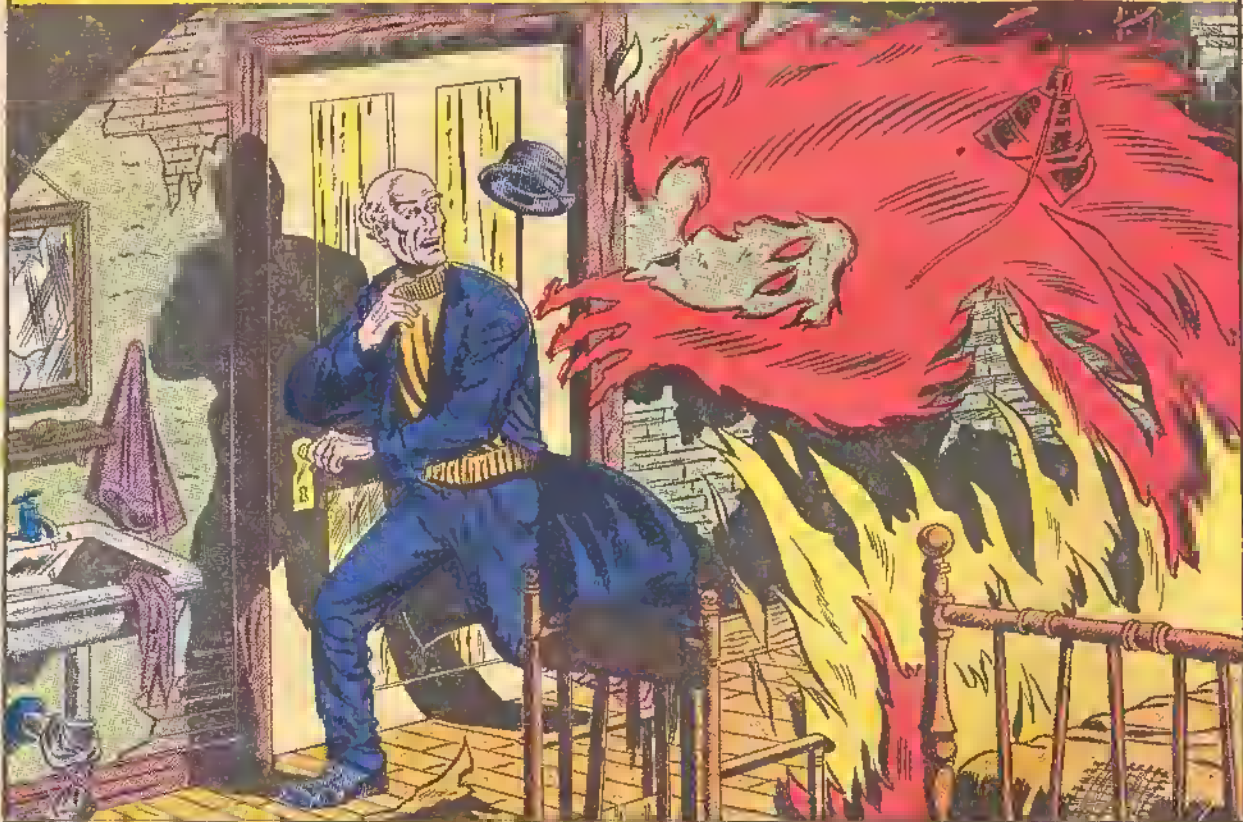
GAAAAAA! NO..NO..NO.. NO!





FLAMING VENGEANCE

THIRTY YEARS AGO, ARNUM'S SON TOOK TO EATING THE UNLASCARBS OF CALIFORNIA, BRINGING THEIR DYING CURSE WITH THE CONSUMING FLAMES! ARNUM SNEERED AT THE IDEA OF VENGEANCE FROM BEYOND THE GRAVE... UNTIL HIS OWN DARK WEB OF EVIL SCHEMING DREW HIM INTO THE TOILS OF A HORROR TOO FRIGHTFUL TO CONTEMPLATE!



IT WAS SAID CAL ARNUM WAS TOO MEAN TO SHELTER EVEN A DISEASE GERM UNLESS IT PAID RENT!

PAPER, MISTER? READ ABOUT THE VIRUS EPIDEMIC! TWENTY MORE CASES SINCE MIDNIGHT...

SPEND 5 CENTS FOR SUCH FOOLISHNESS? GET AWAY FROM ME, BRAT!



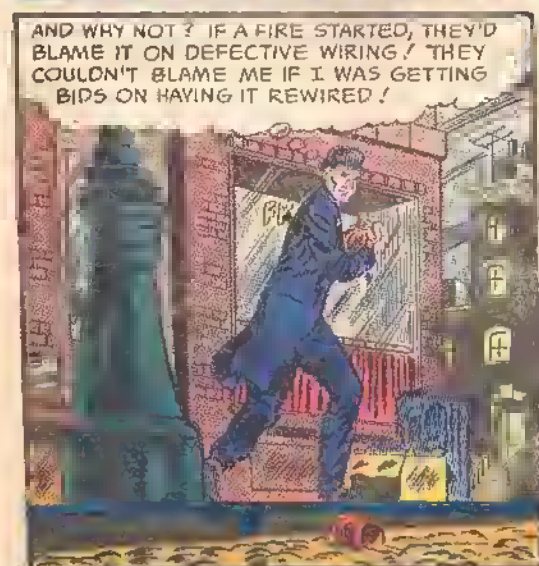
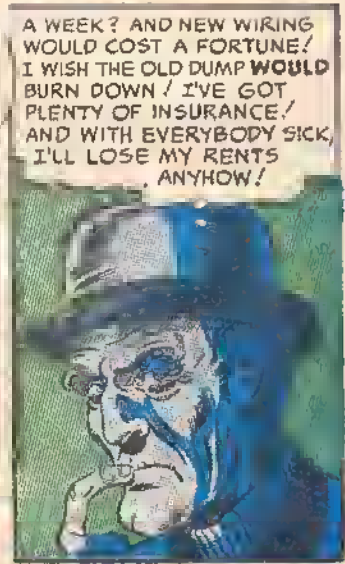
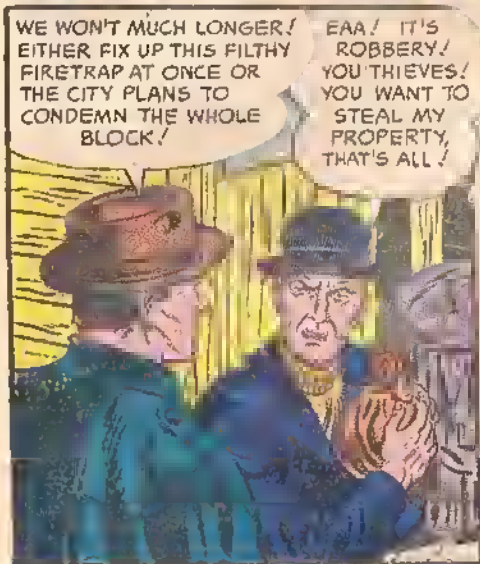
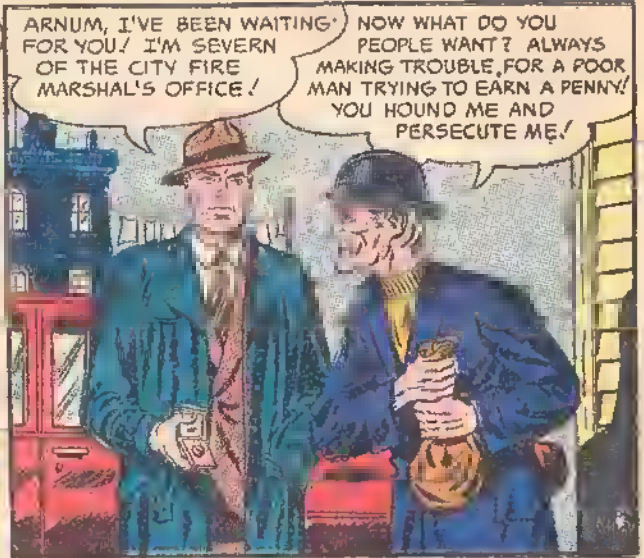
LET SOME FOOL WASTE HIS MONEY! I GET THE NEWS FOR NOTHING!



THE FOULEST TENEMENT IN THE CITY WAS ARNUM'S PROPERTY...AND HIS PRIVATE GOLD MINE, THOUGH FEW REALIZED HOW PROFITABLE IT WAS!

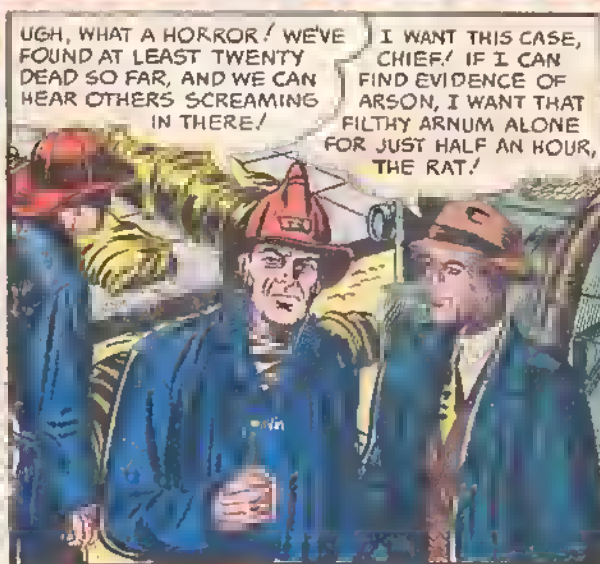
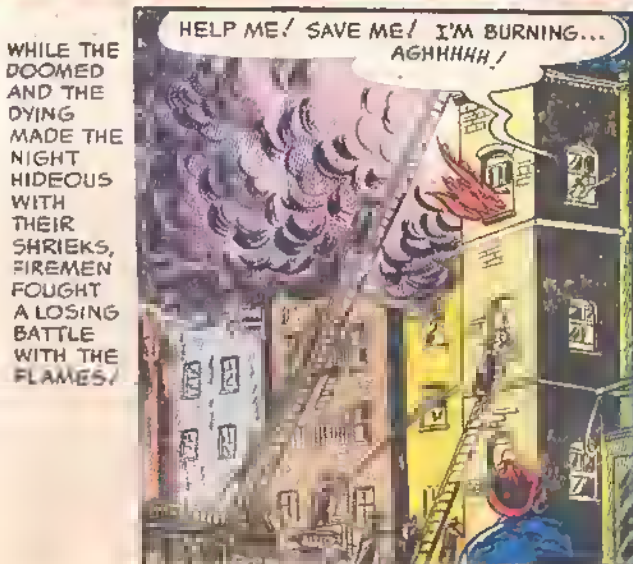
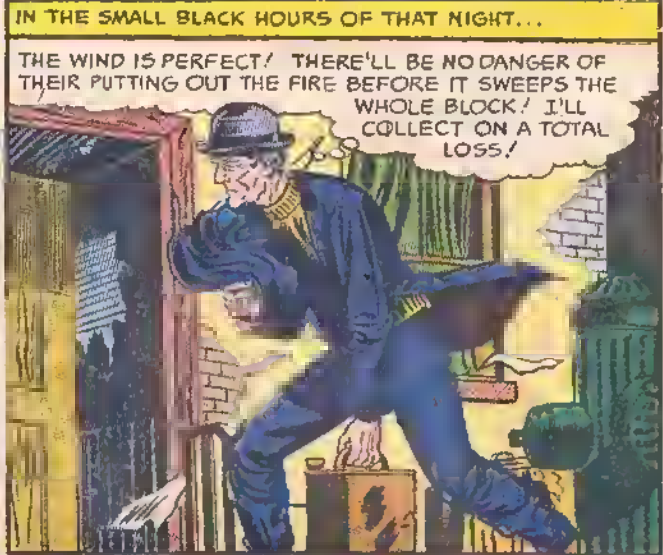
FILTHY SCUM! JUST COMING HERE ONCE A MONTH TO COLLECT MY RENTS MAKES ME SICK! THEY LIVE LIKE PIGS!





LOST IN DREAMS OF NEW WEALTH, CAL ARNUM SCUTTLED TO THE DINGY MANSION HE HAD INHERITED FROM LESS MISERLY ANCESTORS.



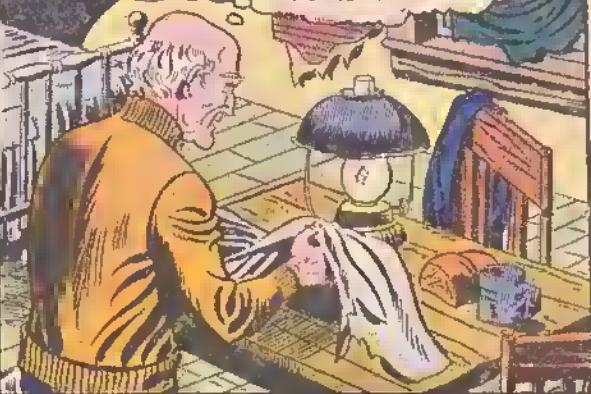


WHILE THE DOOMED AND THE DYING MADE THE NIGHT HIDEOUS WITH THEIR SHRIEKS, FIREMEN FOUGHT A LOSING BATTLE WITH THE FLAMES!

I WANT THIS CASE, CHIEF! IF I CAN FIND EVIDENCE OF ARSON, I WANT THAT FILTHY ARNUM ALONE FOR JUST HALF AN HOUR, THE RAT!

MEANWHILE, IN THE BEDROOM OF THE OLD RUIN ARNUM CALLED "HOME"...

MY COAT! IT'S RIPPED AND THERE'S A BUTTON MISSING! WHERE DID I DO THAT? WHAT IF THEY FIND IT NEAR THE FIRE? THEY CAN MATCH FABRICS!



THEY'LL NEVER GET ME! I'VE PLANNED FOR AN EMERGENCY LONG AGO! I JUST HATED TO SPEND THE MONEY UNTIL I HAD TO!



AT A LITTLE HOUSE ON A WINDING STREET, NOT FAR AWAY...

OPEN UP! LET ME IN QUICKLY! SIDI RABU! WAKE UP!



I AM AWAKE, MY FRIEND! THE CRYSTAL BALL TOLD ME YOU WOULD COME HERE TONIGHT! AND WELL YOU DID! THE FIRE DETECTIVE HAS ALREADY FOUND A MELTED BUTTON!

YOU...YOU KNOW EVERYTHING!



FATE KNOWS EVERYTHING... AND CHOOSES TO TELL ME A FEW SECRETS, SAHIB! YOU HAVE COME FOR THE DROPS OF THE DEATH DRUG!

YES, YES! IT'S MY ONLY HOPE OF ESCAPE! I'LL PAY YOUR PRICE!



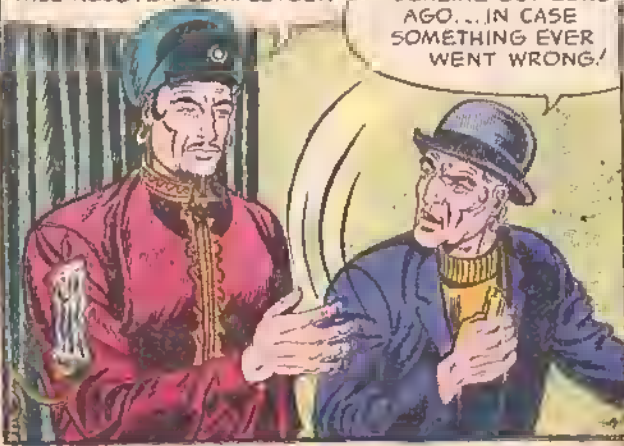
YOU'RE SURE IT WORKS? YOU GUARANTEE RESULTS?

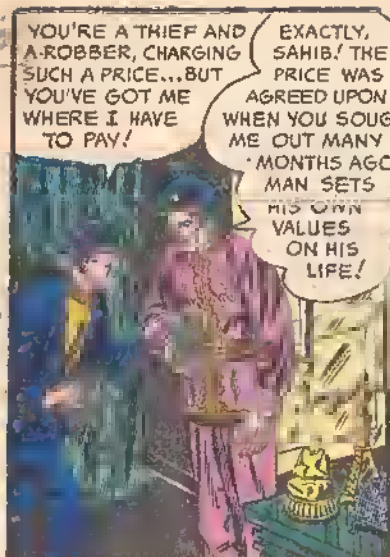
I DO, SAHIB! DRINK THIS AND YOU WILL FALL DOWN IN A CATALEPTIC SLEEP! YOUR MIND WILL BE AWAKE, BUT YOUR BODY WILL BE AS IN DEATH!



NO MEDICAL SCIENCE WILL DETECT A SIGN OF LIFE, SAHIB! YOU WILL LIE AS ONE DEAD FOR 48 HOURS! THEN YOU WILL RECOVER COMPLETELY!

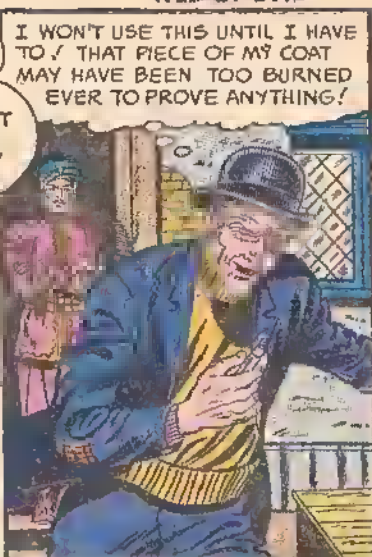
THAT'S LONG ENOUGH, THE WAY I'VE PLANNED IT! I WORKED THIS SCHEME OUT LONG AGO...IN CASE SOMETHING EVER WENT WRONG!





YOU'RE A THIEF AND A ROBBER, CHARGING SUCH A PRICE... BUT YOU'VE GOT ME WHERE I HAVE TO PAY!

EXACTLY, SAHIB! THE PRICE WAS AGREED UPON WHEN YOU SOUGHT ME OUT MANY MONTHS AGO! MAN SETS HIS OWN VALUES ON HIS LIFE!



I WON'T USE THIS UNTIL I HAVE TO! THAT PIECE OF MY COAT MAY HAVE BEEN TOO BURNED EVER TO PROVE ANYTHING!

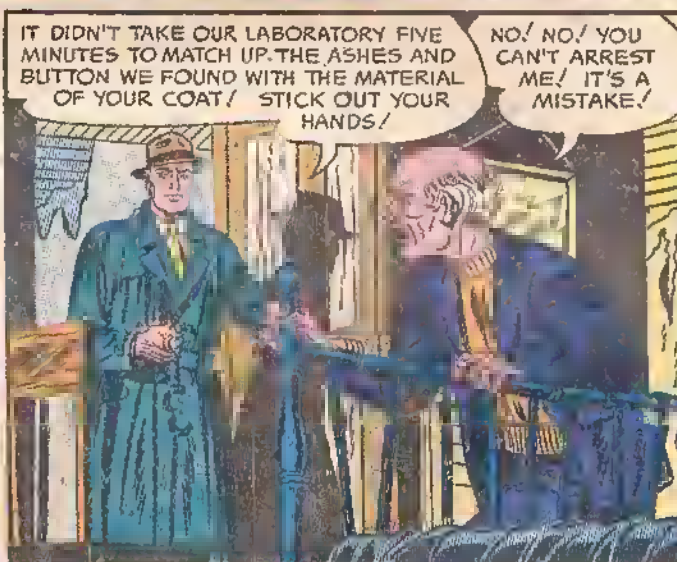


I... I'M SO DIZZY, AND I THINK I'VE GOT A FEVER! MAYBE I'M CATCHING THAT VIRUS THAT'S GOING AROUND! I HOPE NOT!



MY JACKET! IT WAS HERE ON THE BED WHEN I LEFT! SOMEONE'S TAKEN IT...

I TOOK IT... KILLER!



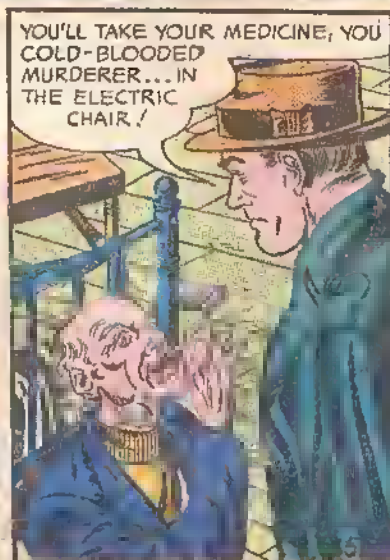
IT DIDN'T TAKE OUR LABORATORY FIVE MINUTES TO MATCH UP THE ASHES AND BUTTON WE FOUND WITH THE MATERIAL OF YOUR COAT! STICK OUT YOUR HANDS!

NO! NO! YOU CAN'T ARREST ME! IT'S A MISTAKE!



YOU MADE THE MISTAKE... AND IT BROUGHT AGONY AND DEATH TO 30 INNOCENT VICTIMS, YOU FILTHY RAT! GET ON YOUR FEET!

WAIT... WAIT... I'M... I'M SICK! I-LET ME TAKE MY MEDICINE!



YOU'LL TAKE YOUR MEDICINE, YOU COLD-BLOODED MURDERER... IN THE ELECTRIC CHAIR!



AGH-AGH-AGH...

YOU VULTURE! IF YOU'VE POISONED YOURSELF TO DODGE PUNISHMENT...

THROUGH THE NEXT WILD HOUR, CAL ARNUM LAY PERFECTLY CONSCIOUS, HIS MIND CLEAR BUT HIS BODY LOCKED IN A WEIRD PARALYSIS!

THERE'S NO QUESTION ABOUT IT! HE'S DEAD, ALL RIGHT!

THE RAT!

IT WORKS... EXACTLY AS SIDI RABU PROMISED! NOW, IN 48 HOURS I'LL BE AWAKE AGAIN AND FREE... FREE!

HERE'S HIS WILL IN THIS DRAWER... AND IT SPECIFIES HE'S NOT TO BE EMBALMED! THE BODY IS TO BE PUT IN THE FAMILY TOMB OUT BEHIND THE HOUSE!

I FIXED THE DOOR SO I CAN GET OUT WHEN I'M READY, TAKE MY HORDE OF GOLD AND SLIP AWAY TO SAFETY!

THE REQUEST IS LEGAL, I GUESS! I'LL NOTIFY THE UNDERTAKER HE MENTIONS TO HANDLE THE DETAILS!

IT'S PERFECT! IN 48 HOURS I'LL BE ON MY WAY TO A NEW PLACE WHERE I CAN CHANGE MY NAME AND START OVER!

HOLD IT, EVERYBODY! THE MAYOR JUST ISSUED AN EMERGENCY PROCLAMATION! IT'S EFFECTIVE AT ONCE... TO STOP THE VIRUS EPIDEMIC, EVERY DEAD BODY IN THE CITY IS TO BE CREMATED WITHIN ONE HOUR AFTER DEATH!

NO! NO, FOR THE LOVE OF MERCY! I'M NOT DEAD! YOU CAN'T BURN ME! I CAN'T MOVE BUT I'M - ALIVE!

SO HE'LL BURN AFTER ALL! I'M ONLY SORRY THE SKUNK WON'T BE ALIVE TO FEEL THE FLAMES THE WAY HIS VICTIMS DID!

AN HOUR LATER, AT THE CREMATORIUM FRIGHTFUL TERROR WITHIN CAL ARNUM'S BREAST BROKE THE PARALYSIS FOR ONE LAST DESPAIRING SHRIEK OF MORTAL ANGUISH!

SAM! SAM, DID YOU HEAR THAT?

SAM, YOU MUSTA HEARD IT! HE SCREAMED DIDN'T HE?

I AIN'T SAYIN' IF I DID OR IF I DIDN'T, JAKE!

REFLEX ACTION OFTEN CAUSES A BODY TO GASP!

A MAN'S BEEN AT THIS JOB AS LONG AS I HAVE, HE SEES AND HEARS A LOTTA THINGS IT AIN'T GOOD TO BROOD ON! JUST FORGET IT!

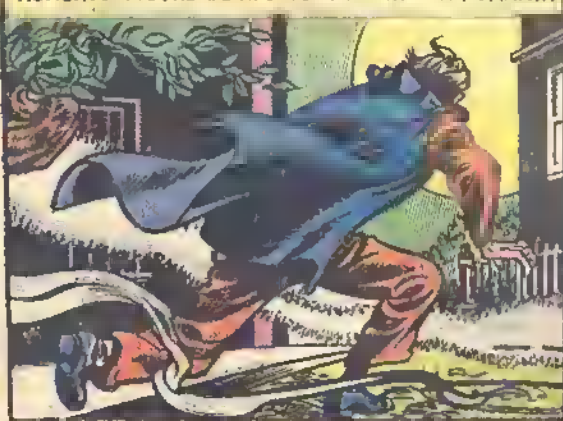
WE'LL NEVER KNOW...

THE CONSTANT, OMINOUS PLODDING OF A THING GONE MAD--A CRY OF CHOKED OFF TERROR--THE DULL THUD OF A BODY DRAINED OF LIFE...AND ANOTHER HELPLESS PERSON HAS FALLEN VICTIM TO THIS BEAST OF CRIME! FOR NO ONE IS SAFE WHEN...

DEATH PROWLSThe STREETS

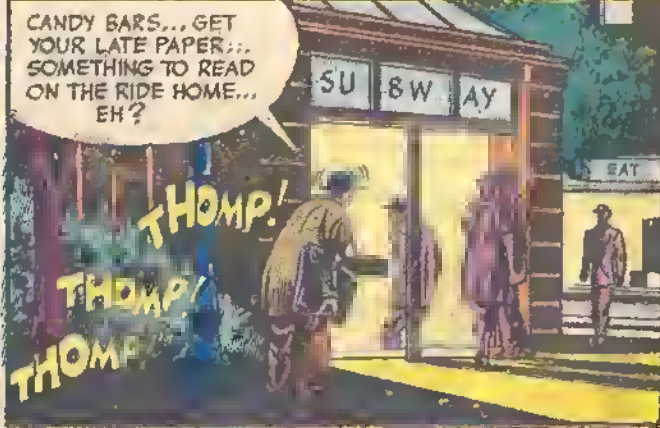


IN THE DEAD OF NIGHT NEAR BOSTON COMMON A HUNCHED FIGURE SLINKS TOWARD THE CITY PARK...



A LATE WORKING VENDOR HEARS FOOTSTEPS! HE TURNS...

CANDY BARS... GET YOUR LATE PAPER... SOMETHING TO READ ON THE RIDE HOME... EH?



SUDDENLY, DEATH MOVES OUT OF THE DARKNESS...

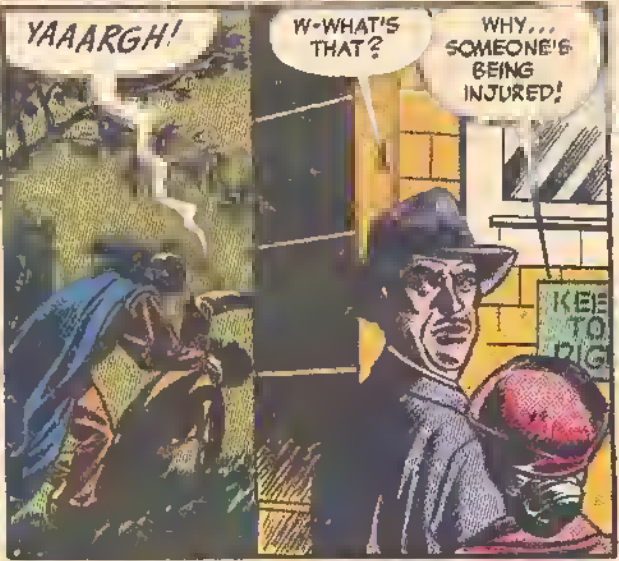
NEWS-P-A-P-E-R-S...
W-W-HO A-ARE YOU?
YAAAAAAAAAAAAA!



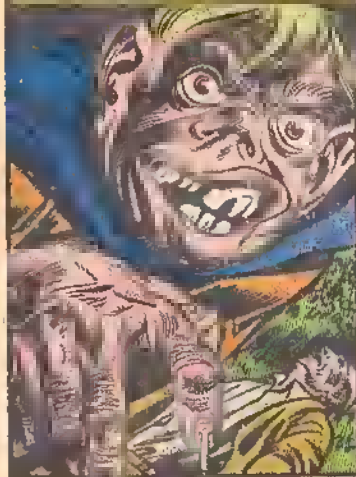
YAAARGH!

W-WHAT'S THAT?

WHY...
SOMEONE'S
BEING
INJURED!



APPEASED, CONTENTED, THE
THING OF MURDER MOVES
TOWARD THE SHADOWS...



LATER, LIEUTENANT GEORGE SANDS OF
HOMICIDE EXAMINES EVIDENCE ON HIS
HEADQUARTERS DESK...

CRAZY! JUST PLAIN
CRAZY! WHO IN
BLAZES WOULD WANT
TO KILL OFF A HARM-
LESS LITTLE PARK
VENDOR? SEEMS
THERE'S A CRACK-
...
EVERY BIG
CITY!

YEAH,
SANDS! BUT
THANK
HEAVENS
THEY'RE
USUALLY
STUPID
ENOUGH TO
BE CAUGHT
EASILY!



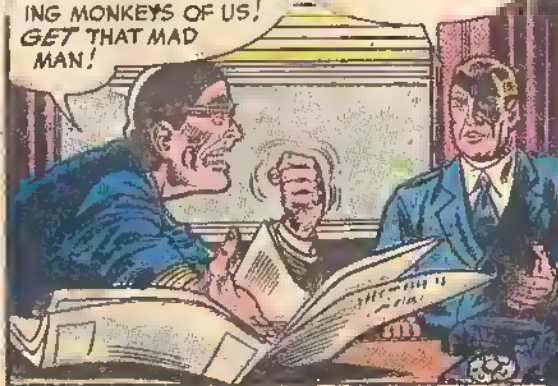
WELL, THE RAT RACE BEGINS
AGAIN! CHECK EVERY FRINGE
TYPE LUNATIC WE'VE GOT IN OUR
FILES! TRACE THEIR ACTIONS,
CHECK THEIR ALIBIS, AND THEN
GRAB THE ONE WHO CAN'T
EXPLAIN HIS WHEREABOUTS
AND HAS A WILD LOOK IN
HIS EYES!



TRUS,
DOES
LIEU-
TENANT
SANDS
CLASSIFY
HIS
NEW
CASE
AS A
TYPICAL
BIG CITY
LUNATIC
KILLING!
BUT
HE IS
WRONG...
FOR AS
THE DAYS
PASS...

LIEUTENANT, WHAT
IN THE SAM HILL IS
HOLDING YOU UP?
THIS IS THE THIRD
KILLING WITHIN FOUR
DAYS BY THIS FANATIC!
THE PAPERS ARE MAK-
ING MONKEYS OF US!
GET THAT MAD
MAN!

CHIEF...IT'S...IT'S A
SCREWBALL CASE! WE
KNOW HE'S JUST SOME
CRACKPOT OF
COURSE... BUT HE
DOESN'T LEAVE
ANY CLUES!



IT'S LIKE HE WAS A
GHOST! NOBODY
SEES HIM COME...
NOBODY SEES HIM GO!
HE'S THE CLEVEREST
NUT WE'VE DEALT
WITH YET!

THE POLICE DEPART-
MENT IS SUPPOSED
TO BE CLEVER TOO,
SANDS! IF HE ISN'T
ONE OF OUR KNOWN
SUSPECTS WORK ON
A FRESH ANGLE!



WEB OF EVIL

BUT THE LIEUTENANT HAS NOT MOVED FAST ENOUGH! FOR THAT VERY EVENING THE CLOAKED CREATURE OF EVIL IS AGAIN ABROAD...

READY AND WAITING... SUCH A SMALL PRIZE FOR ONE OF MY ABILITY... STILL TO THE POLICE IT WILL BE REMARKABLE INDEED! AH, ONLY THE HEAD TELLER REMAINS TO CLOSE THE BANK!



SHORTLY, THE MAN OF MURDER HOVERS GRACEFULLY FROM THE BANK ROOF AND...

A POINT OF ENTRANCE NEVER EXPECTED BY THE FOOLS! AWAY FROM ALL ALARMS AND OUT OF SIGHT! HA!



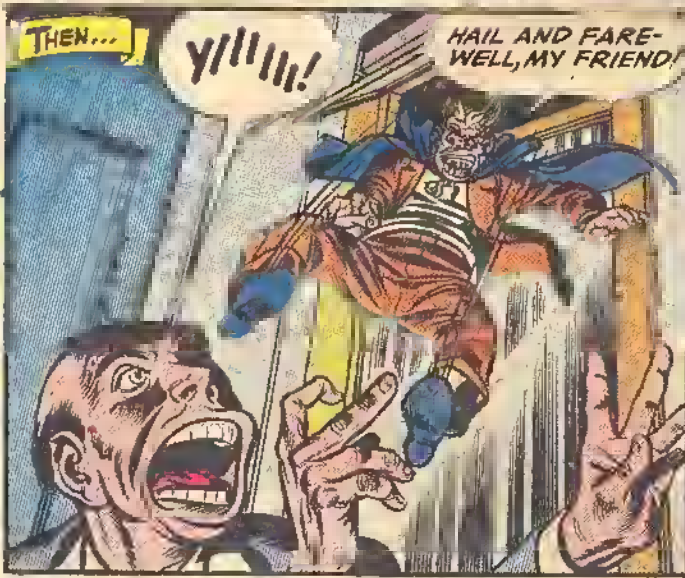
CAREFULLY, THE NOCTURNAL CREATURE LIFTS THE CUT GLASS FREE WITH A SUCTION CUP AND...



THEN...

Y!!!/!!!

HAIL AND FAREWELL, MY FRIEND!



AFTERWARD, AS AN ALARMED POLICE DEPARTMENT STUDIES THE DEATH SCENE...

GREAT THUNDER! HE PULLS THE CLEVEREST SMALL BANK THEFT IN HISTORY AND THEN BURNS THE MONEY! W-WHAT'S BEHIND IT, DRU?

I DON'T KNOW, SANDS! BUT ONE THING IS CERTAIN, THIS FIEND IS TOO CLEVER FOR YOU...OR ME! ONLY ONE MAN CAN COPE WITH HIM... EMMETT DRU!



DRU! SURE, HE CRACKED EVERY PHANTOM KILLING CASE HE EVER HANDLED! BUT, CHIEF! HE'S BEEN RETIRED OVER A YEAR-- HIS HEALTH IS SHOT! HE VOWED NEVER TO HANDLE ANOTHER JOB...

HE'S GOT TO HANDLE JUST ONE MORE, SANDS! WE'RE DESPERATE AND LIVES ARE AT STAKE!



LATER, AT THE COUNTRY HOME OF RETIRED CRACK DETECTIVE, EMMETT DRU...

SURELY YOU ARE JOKING, GENTLEMEN! MY CRIMINAL-CHASING IS BEHIND ME! I HAVE ONLY THE STATUES OF THE PHANTOM KILLERS I CAPTURED TO STIR MY MEMORIES!

EMMETT! YOU MUST HELP US! WE'RE HELPLESS AGAINST THIS CREATURE! ONLY YOU, THE GREATEST OF ALL DETECTIVES, CAN HOPE TO BEST HIM!



I SEE! IF SUCH IS THE CASE PERHAPS I CAN PERFORM ONE LAST SERVICE FOR THE DEPARTMENT! CARL! PREPARE THE DEN FOR A POLICE CONFERENCE!

YES, MR. DRU!

FAR INTO THE NIGHT THE FORMER ACE DETECTIVE REVIEWS THE CASE! NO DETAIL ESCAPES HIS KEEN MIND...

BUT, EMMETT, THERE AREN'T ANY OTHER CLUES! WE JUST HAVE THE FIVE LOCATIONS OF THE MURDER SCENES TO WORK WITH!

FANTASTIC! INDEED WE DO HAVE A PROBLEM ON OUR HANDS! IN YOUNGER DAYS I PATROLED ON FOOT FOR SUSPECTS! I SHALL DO IT AGAIN... HERE AT THE WATERFRONT!

THE FOLLOWING NIGHT, THE GREAT DETECTIVE BEGINS HIS GRIM PATROL!

ONCE AGAIN SEEKING AN UNKNOWN FIEND BY MOON-LIGHT! STRANGE INDEED! THE SCENES OF HIS MURDERS MADE A SEMI-CIRCLE ABOUT THE DOCK AREA! A SLIGHT CLUE... BUT THIS MAY BE THE SITE FROM WHICH HE INTENDS TO DO MURDER!

THE KEEN-THINKING DETECTIVE ROUNDS THE WAREHOUSE CORNER AND MOMENTS LATER...

L-LET ME GO... HELP! HELP! AHHH H H H H!

THEN, GUN FIRE SHATTERS THE STILLNESS AS THE COUNTRY'S GREATEST DETECTIVE MOVES INTO ACTION...

BANG! BANG! BANG!

GIVE UP, YOU DEVIL! YOU'LL NOT ESCAPE EMMETT DRU!

GREAT SCOTT! TRAILING DRU WAS SMART ALL RIGHT! HE'S ONTO SOMETHING ALREADY!

SHORTLY...

THE KILLER VANISHED LIKE A SHADOW! WHAT DID HE LOOK LIKE, EMMETT? HOW TALL? HOW HEAVY?

HE... WAS A HUMAN DEVIL! HIS EYE LIKE AN ORB OF FIRE... A FACE FILLED WITH UNHOLY HATRED! I... I CAN'T GET HIS FACE FROM MY MIND!

HOURS LATER, AFTER POLICE HAVE FUTILLY SCoured THE NEIGHBORHOOD, DRU RETURNS HOME AND...

YOU ARE ILL, MR. DRU! I KNEW YOU SHOULD NEVER HAVE TAKEN THIS TERRIBLE CASE! WHY... YOUR NERVOUS BREAKDOWN WAS ENOUGH TO KILL MOST MEN!

YES... THE EXCITEMENT AFTER ALL THIS TIME HAS BEEN TOO MUCH FOR MY ILL HEALTH! B-BUT THAT HIDEOUS FACE... THAT EXPRESSION...

THAT EVENING THE DISTURBED DETECTIVE RETIRES--HIS MIND AFLAME WITH THE DILEMMA HE FACES! SUDDENLY...

H-HUH?

A VOICE...WHO'S THERE?

HO, HO...HO, HO!
I'VE OUTWITTED
YOU, EMMETT
DRU!



THE PHANTOM! HA, HA!
I'VE COME TO MOCK
YOUR STUPIDITY! YOU'LL
NEVER PUT ME BEHIND
BARS LIKE YOU DID
THE OTHERS!

GREAT SCOTT!
HE'S MAD--MY
PISTOL!
I MUST STOP
HIM!



DRU
FUMBLES
BLINDLY
FOR
HIS
WEAPON--
HIS
PALM
TOUCHES
COLD
STEEL!
THEN HE
TIGHTENS
HIS
INDEX
FINGER
ABOUT
THE
TRIGGER
AND...

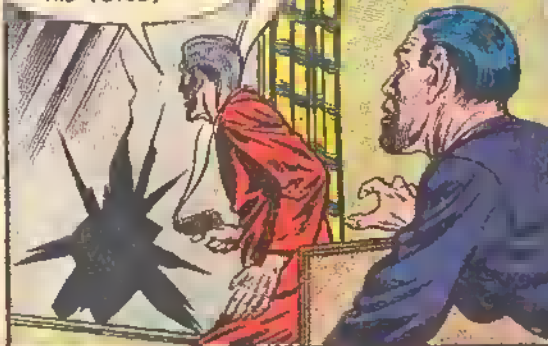
THIS WILL PREVENT YOU
FROM PROWLING THE
STREETS TO TAKE
MORE LIVES, YOU
BUTCHER!



A MOMENT LATER, THE FAMOUS SLEUTH DRAWS
A STARTLING CONCLUSION...

GOOD GRIEF! THE
PHANTOM WASN'T HERE
AT ALL! IT WAS JUST
AN **APPARITION**...
AND I **IMAGINED**
HIS VOICE!

THOSE SHOTS,
SIR! IS
EVERYTHING...
ALL RIGHT?



YES... I GUESS
SO, CARL! JUST
ANOTHER ONE OF
MY BLASTED
ATTACKS! THIS
PHANTOM FEL-
LOW HAS ME
NEARLY CRAZY!

PERHAPS AN
ASPIRIN WILL
PUT YOU AT
EASE, MR. DRU!
I HOPE YOU
CATCH THE
CREATURE
SOON... IT'S
HURTING YOU!

THE FOLLOWING MORNING, EMMETT
DRU BURSTS ENTHUSIASTICALLY
INTO LT. SANDS' OFFICE AT POLICE
HEADQUARTERS...

I'VE EXCELLENT NEWS,
SANDS--A SURE-FIRE
LEAD TO THE PHANTOM!
RIGHT UNDER OUR
NOSES ALL THE
TIME--AND WE
MISSED IT!

DON'T
KEEP
ME IN
SUS-
PENSE!
WHAT'S
YOUR
THEORY!



MY IMAGINATION PLAYED
TRICKS WITH ME LAST
NIGHT, SANDS! I SAW
AN APPARITION OF THE
PHANTOM! LATER, I
BEGAN THINKING ---
WHERE COULD SUCH A
HIDEOUS LOOKING
CREATURE HIDE, WITH-
OUT BEING DETECTED,
IN A MODERN CITY?

WELL...
WHERE,
IN
HEAVEN'S
NAME?



IN A LOCALITY WHERE HIS UGLINESS WOULD NOT ATTRACT ATTENTION-- WOULD EVEN BENEFIT HIS LIVELIHOOD--A CARNIVAL OR A CARNIVAL OF COURSE!

BY THUNDER, YOU'RE RIGHT, DRU! AS A SIDE-SHOW FREAK HE'D BE ABOVE SUSPICION! YOU'RE A WALKING GENIUS!

THIS IS HARDLY THE TIME FOR BACK SLAPPING, SANDS! A KILLER IS LOOSE IN THE STREETS! I SUGGEST YOU DETAIL A SQUAD OF MEN TO THE WAVERLY CARNIVAL! IT'S THE ONLY ONE IN THE AREA!

WE'LL DRAGNET THE ENTIRE SHOW-- IF HE'S THERE WE'LL FIND HIM!



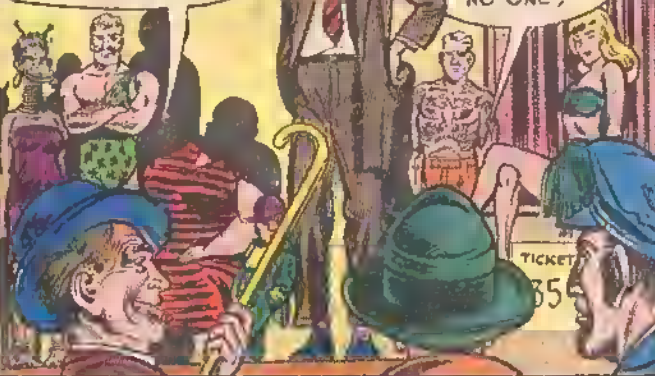
ANXIOUSLY, THE TWO DETECTIVES RUSH TO THE WAVERLY CARNIVAL WHERE...

THERE THEY ARE--ALL OF MY SIDE-SHOW ACTS JUST AS YOU ASKED FOR, GENTLEMEN!

NO... I'M AFRAID OUR MAN ISN'T AMONG THEM! ARE YOU SURE YOU'VE FORGOTTEN NO ONE?

NOT THAT I KNOW OF... WE DID HAVE GEEKO, THE WILD MAN, WITH US! BUT I FIRED HIM JUST THIS MORNING--HIS TEMPER GOT THE BETTER OF HIM! HE CAUSED A LOT OF TROUBLE!

HM-M... A TAILOR-MADE CHARACTERISTIC OF OUR PHANTOM! I THINK PERHAPS WE'D BETTER HAVE A LITTLE TALK WITH GEEKO! DO YOU KNOW WHERE WE CAN FIND HIM?



I SAW HIM ON THE GROUNDS JUST AWHILE AGO! WHY DON'T YOU TAKE A LOOK AROUND! YOU CAN'T MISS HIM... HE'S A BRUTE!

WE MUST WORK FAST, SANDS! NO TELLING WHEN HE'LL KILL AGAIN IF HE IS THE PHANTOM! LET'S SPLIT UP--WE'LL GIVE A CALL IF WE LOCATE HIM!

AS DETECTIVE DRU METHODICALLY COVERS THE CARNIVAL GROUNDS WITH THE TRAINED EYE OF HIS PROFESSION...

NOTHING YET... BUT HE MUST BE ABOUT SOMEWHERE! M-MY HEAD... IT'S SPLITTING! I WOULD HAVE TO FORGET THOSE ASPIRINS...

SHORTLY, A WEIRD CRY ECHOES FORTH FROM THE HOUSE OF MIRRORS...

SANDS! SANDS! IT'S THE PHANTOM! I'VE GOT HIM CORNERED!

GREAT SCOTT! THAT'S DRU CRYING OUT!



W-WATCH YOURSELF, SANDS! THERE'S MORE THAN ONE PHANTOM--I-I CAN COUNT FIVE... SIX...SEVEN...

H-HUH? POOR DRU... I HOPE I'M NOT TOO LATE!

BLAM!

BLAM!

HA! HA! WE'VE GOT YOU AT LAST! ALL OF YOU--YOU DEVILS!

THE PHANTOM... BUT WAIT! THAT VOICE... IT'S DRU...

BAM! BAM!

WELL, WHAT ARE YOU WAITING FOR SANDS? SHOOT THEM ALL DOWN--OR THEY'LL ESCAPE US!

SURE... DRU!! ANYTHING YOU SAY...

HE'S STARK RAVING MAD! GOT TO KNOCK HIM OUT BEFORE ONE OF HIS BULLETS HITS SOMEONE...

HA, HA...HO, HO! SO YOU THOUGHT YOU'D OUTWITTED ME, EH, PHANTOM? NO CRIMINAL ALIVE CAN BEST EMMETT DRU!

BAM!

IT'S BETTER THIS WAY... FELLER!

O-OH...

THUD!

AND WHEN STARTLED POLICE OFFICIALS ARRIVE ON THE SCENE...

DRU... THE PHANTOM! THIS IS INCREDIBLE, SANDS!

WELL, HERE'S THE PROOF, CHIEF! THIS PHANTOM MASK CREATED BY DRU HAS THE COMPOSITES OF THE CRIMINALS HE BEATED IN THE PAST! DRU WAS SUFFERING FROM A CASE OF SPLIT PERSONALITY--IN ONE EXISTENCE HE WAS A GREAT DETECTIVE--IN THE OTHER HE WAS THE PHANTOM!

HEE-HEE HO HO HA-HA HA

AND HE HAD NO KNOWLEDGE OF THIS DOUBLE LIFE HE WAS LIVING! HOW IRONIC--HE UNWITTINGLY WAS TRACKING DOWN HIMSELF!

AS HE WAS THE PERFECT DETECTIVE HIS SUB-CONSCIOUS MIND SOUGHT TO CREATE THE PERFECT CRIMINAL! AND WHO KNOWS... IF IT WASN'T FOR HIS MASTER SKILL AS A SLEUTH THE PHANTOM MIGHT NEVER HAVE BEEN CAUGHT!

I CAUGHT THE PHANTOM...I KNEW I COULD DO IT! HO, HO... SO NO CRIMINAL ALIVE CAN BEST EMMETT DRU!



Uncle Bernie's FUN SHOP

Buy Now - AT OUR LOW-LOW PRICES!

NEW - ELECTRIC REMOTE CONTROL

"electra-JEEP" *the 1952 sensational!*

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A terrific buy at this price!

RUSH ORDER TODAY!

GOES FORWARD • REVERSE • LEFT • RIGHT • PUSH-BUTTON STEERING • TORQUE ON PAYMENTS • DOORS ON PAYMENTS • METAL BASE

Here is the sensational new scale model ELECTRA JEEP that controls every child! Push the button and off the gas—forward, to the left, to the right, or reverse. Rear outdoor on pavement at indoors on rug. Over 1/2 foot long with overall solid metal base and solid rubber wheels, and metal torque steering. Load of fun for children and grownups alike! Rush your order today! **SEND NO MONEY.** (C.O.D. you pay postage. Remit with order, we pay postage.)

AMAZING • EXCITING • IT'S TELEVIEW!

SUPER DELUXE

ELECTRIC MOVIE PROJECTOR

SHOWS REAL MOVIES

A BIG SHOW "Little Red Riding Hood"

A REAL PROJECTOR Bright Red Plastic!

A COLORFUL THEATRE with SCENES!

COMPLETELY SAFE! Any Child Can Operate

EXTRA FILM 3 FILMS ONLY \$1.00

SHOW WHITE THE OWL AND THE PUSSY CAT JINGLES! IT'S THREE LITTLE MOS JACK AND JILL, BOB VAN WINKLE, BOB VAN WINKLE, ROBINSON CRUISE, HOUSE THAT JACK BUILT, WINKLE WINKLE

\$2.98 **COMPLETE** Projector, One film and Screen!

Now any child can show the most exciting movies at home with this amazing TELEVIEW Projector, complete with colorful theatre and screen. The bright red plastic projector is safe and simple to operate — nothing to get out of order. Think of the fun of watching your favorite come to life on the theatre screen! This Super Deluxe Projector, will mean big movie parties for friends and family. You boys and girls will be fascinated with the Big Movie Show, and stunning movies all by yourself! Is the greatest treat of them all! **SEND NO MONEY.** Remit with order and we pay postage at C.O.D. plus postage.

SEND NO MONEY C.O.D. you pay postage and handling charges. Remit with order we pay postage.

NOVELTY MART 59 East 8th Street, New York 3, N. Y.

HAPPY the Cowboy

• HE'S OVER 17" TALL
• MOVES HIS MOUTH,
• ARMS AND LEGS!
• REAL COWBOY OUTFIT!

Hey kids—here's your chance to become a master ventriloquist—in a jiffy! Imagine—you see, look! **HAPPY the COWBOY** actually talks! (In your own voice, of course.) Pull the string to the back of his head—with his lips move—hear your own words coming right out of **HAPPY'S** mouth! See how real he looks! Rigged up in a cowboy hat, western plaid shirt and western pants... Show off your skill as parlor—school! **SEND NO MONEY.** (C.O.D. you pay postage. Remit with order, we pay postage.)

2

Hi! I'm LANA! **FREE HAIR WAVE KIT**

the Doll whose HAIR YOU CAN WAVE!

I have RUBBER WONDERKIN!

NEW!

TERRIFIC VALUE!

\$3.98

Complete

A wonderful new doll in washable rubber Wonderkin whose hair is so lifelike it can be waved in any style and rewarded just like your own. A perfect playmate for the "Junior Mother" of the house. Complete with real hairwave kit which consists of... plastic curlers... rubber waving bands... waving end papers... plastic comb... and bottle of hair wave lotion. **LANA** is 11 inches tall. Her soft cuddly body which can be bathed will give the "Junior Miss" an almost real baby sister to play with.

SEND NO MONEY! NOVELTY MART, Q8
59 East 8th Street, New York 3, N. Y.
Gentlemen: Please read me the following:
Enclosed find: ☐ Check on M.O. ☐ C.O.D. plus postage.

- | | |
|--|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Happy the Cowboy \$2.98 | <input type="checkbox"/> Electric Jeep \$3.98 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> T. Y. Projector \$2.98 | <input type="checkbox"/> LANA \$3.98 |
| (3 Films \$1.00) | |

Name _____

Address _____ City _____ State _____

CAST BACK THE DEAD

JENNER, walking a few steps behind Jim

Dake along the moonlit path, began to ease the heavy, lead-filled blackjack out from inside his jacket, worming his fingers through the thong that would hold it securely to his wrist. Here the path curved toward the cliff top and the booming of the savage surf a hundred feet below grew louder in their ears.

Dake said, with a trace of irritation. "Blast it, Jenner, I wish you'd tell me what this is all about. Why do I have to stumble out here to the ocean at midnight just to talk something over with you? We're partners in business. What's wrong with doing our talking during business hours, either in my office or yours?"

"You'll understand in a minute, Jim," Jenner said, and a grin twisted his thin lips.

Yes, in a minute Jim Dake would understand everything. He would realize, in the last stricken moments of life, how bitterly Dan Jenner hated him, hated the fact that Dake's money had bought him the biggest interest in the business, the biggest share of the profits. Dake had plenty of money, while Jenner was always in debt. Dake had a beautiful wife, whose smile could fire Jenner's blood. With Jim Dake dead, Jenner would collect their partnership insurance and someday Dake's widow. Also, he would never be caught at certain company thefts that were already near discovery.

"Then make it snappy," Dake said crossly as they came to the edge of the sheer, crumbling cliff.

"All right," Jenner said and swung the blackjack savagely. "Is this snappy enough, dear partner?"

Jim Dake tried to yell but the descending bludgeon smashed through the thin wall of his skull and deep into his brain, and the nerve centers that would have completed the cry were crushed out. Probably Dake was already dead when his figure began to fall, but Jenner struck twice more with all his force and with vicious satisfaction.

His last blow sent the body feeling to the edge of the cliff. The soft dirt crumbled and tore away. Jim Dake's body plummeted over and down to the rocks and the lashing surf below.

Laughing softly, Jenner stripped off the bloody blackjack and hurled it far out into the surf-lashed bay. Let them prove anything on him now. The vicious undertow below would carry the body out to sea and probably the blackjack as well. Who could say, when the body was finally found, that the crushed skull had not been caused by the fall onto the jagged rocks below. The crumbling cliff edge would tell its own story. And the stupid Dake had never noticed that Jenner was in his stocking feet, so that only one set of shoe prints would be found leading to the edge.

Two hours later Jenner sat at the bar of the resort hotel, a few hundred yards from the murder spot. It was called Cast-Up House, for a reason Jenner had never bothered to learn. Now, hiding the pounding excitement within him, Jenner lounged at the bar and listened to the swirl of small talk around him.

A couple nearby were questioning the bartender about something. Idly, Jenner heard the girl say, "It's positively weird. I lose a heavy bracelet off the cliff into that perfectly frightening surf below and you tell me not to worry because I'll get it back within an hour, right here at the hotel."

"That you will, Miss," the bartender said, grinning. "That's why this is named Cast-Up House. The undertow throws everything in the bay right up into the little inlet in front of the hotel. You'd be surprised at the things cast up here. Why, tonight a man was murdered, his skull crushed with a blackjack. An hour later the body and blackjack filled with fingerprints rolled up here together, as nice as you please, all ready for the police." He caught a movement from the corner of his eye and whirled, shouting, "Somebody catch that man. He's fainted."

Valley of Horror



IF YOU'RE PLANNING A MOTOR TRIP SOON... BE CAREFUL WHAT ROAD MAP YOU USE! KEEP TO THE MAIN HIGHWAYS AND LISTEN TO THE GRIM WARNING OF NATIVES BEFORE YOU TRY A SHORTCUT! SOMEWHERE IN THE COUNTRY THERE MAY BE OTHER ROADMAPS, PLANNED BY SATAN HIMSELF, TO LEAD THE UNWARY INTO THAT DARK CITY OF HORROR THAT CAN ONLY BE... A SUBURB OF HELL!

JIM AND BETTY DRAKE HAD CHOSEN A MOTOR TRIP WEST FOR THEIR HONEYMOON...

DON'T YOU HAVE ANY IDEA WHAT ROAD WE TAKE NEXT, DARLING?

NOT THE FAINTEST! OUR ROAD-MAP ENDS AT THE BORDER! YOU'VE GOT TO PICK UP A NEW MAP AT THE NEXT FILLING STATION!



EEEK! THAT CAR AHEAD, JIM... IT MISSED THE SHARP TURN!

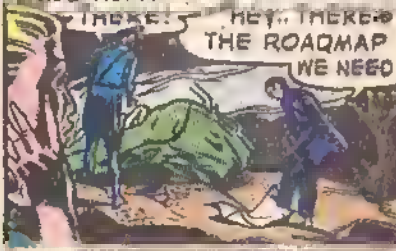
WHAT A TERRIBLE SMASHUP! I'VE GOT TO SEE WHAT WE CAN DO TO HELP!



LUCKILY A STATE POLICE CAR, COMING FROM THE OPPOSITE DIRECTION WAS AVAILABLE TO MEET THE EMERGENCY!

YOU RUN ALONG AND ENJOY YOUR HONEYMOON, MISTER! I'VE RADIOED FOR AN AMBULANCE! HE'S TILL ALIVE IN THERE!

THANKS, OFFICER! WE'RE ANXIOUS TO REACH THE CITY BEFORE TOO LATE.



HEY... THERE'S THE ROADMAP WE NEED!

.. AND THE TROOPER SAID TO TAKE HIS ROADMAP! THAT MAN WON'T BE GOING ANYWHERE BUT TO THE HOSPITAL FOR A LONG TIME!

OKAY, BUT I F-FEEL SO QUEER! THAT POOR MAN, ALL SMASHED UP!

WAIT! THE MAP SHOWS A SHORT CUT THROUGH PERDITION VALLEY, JIM! WE CAN CUT OFF ELEVEN MILES THIS WAY!

OKAY! THE GUY MUST HAVE KNOWN THE ROAD WAS GOOD OR HE WOULDN'T HAVE MARKED THIS SHORTCUT! I'LL TURN OFF HERE!

SUDDENLY, OUT OF THE SHADOWS..

HOLD IT, FOLKS! YOU DON'T WANT TO DRIVE THROUGH PERDITION VALLEY AT NIGHT! THERE'S DARK THINGS, EVIL THINGS, SPOOKS AND LURKING THERE!

WHAT TH..? ER.. THANKS A LOT, FRIEND, BUT WE AREN'T AFRAID OF GOBLINS! WE WANT TO REACH THE CITY! SORRY..!

J-JIM, I'M SCARED! MAYBE WE **SHOULD** TURN BACK AND TAKE THE LONG WAY!

DON'T BE SILLY, SWEET! WE'RE NOT LETTING ANY HE-WITCH SCARE US INTO EXTRA MILES OF DRIVING! RELAX AND WATCH FOR SIGNS!

JIM, I DON'T LIKE IT! TH-THERE'S NO MIDWAY CITY ON THE MAP!

RELAX, DEAR! THE WEST IS FULL OF NEW TOWNS THAT HAVE SPRUNG UP AROUND DAMS OR DEVELOPMENTS OR ATOMIC PROJECTS! DON'T BE SO JITTERY!

A FEW BLOCKS INTO THE STRANGELY SILENT CITY...

HOLD IT! YOU'RE JOHN DRAKE, AREN'T YOU?

WHY.. NO, I'M NOT! I'M JIM DRAKE, OFFICER... AND THIS IS MY WIFE, BETTY!

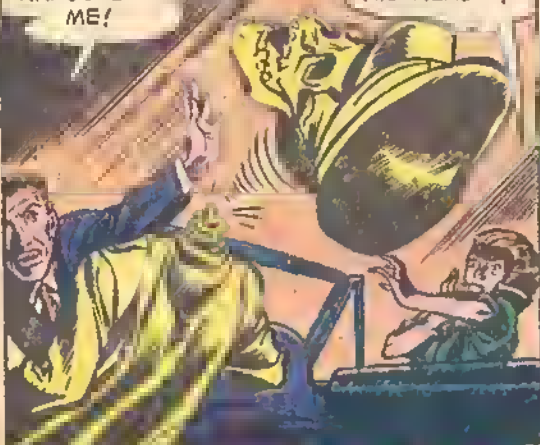
DON'T LIE TO ME, DOOMED ONE! YOU'RE JOHN DRAKE AND YOU WERE DUE HERE HALF AN HOUR AGO! WHAT DELAYED YOU?

EEAHH! EEEK!

WHAT KIND OF MAD
GAME IS THIS?
GET YOUR FILTHY
HANDS OFF
ME!

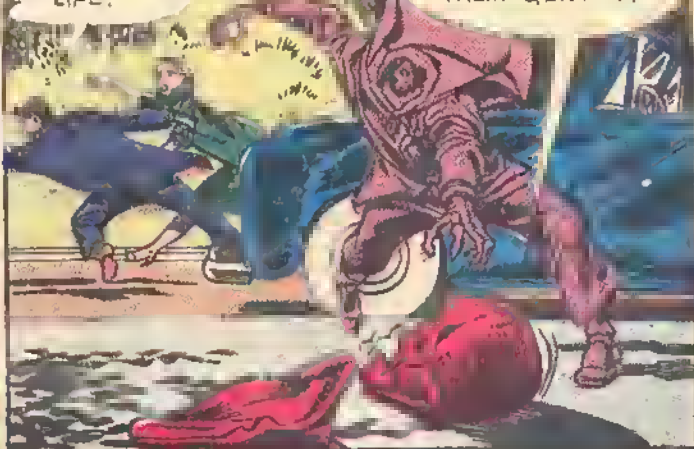
EEEEAA!

HIS HEAD...
HIS HEAD...!



DON'T GET HYSTERIC
NOW! **RUN...** RUN
FOR YOUR
LIFE!

HALP! HALP! TWO
ESCAPEES! HEAD
THEM OFF! CORNER
THEM QUICKLY!



OH, THERE YOU ARE!
HOW DARE YOU BRING
A GUEST HERE --?
AND HOW DARE YOU
TRY TO ESCAPE THE
MASTER?

THAT ALLEY! RUN
DOWN THE ALLEY,
BETTY!



SOMETHING'S WRONG!
WE NEVER MISSED
BEFORE!

EEEEK! IT'S A
DEAD-END ALLEY!
WE'RE T-TRAPPED!



SUDDENLY..

AWRRK
WHA...?

IN HERE,
QUICKLY!
IT'S YOUR
ONLY
HOPE!



WHY, YOU.. YOU'RE
FLESH AND BLOOD
HUMAN! FOR THE
LOVE OF MERCY,
TELL US WHAT THIS
MAD MASQUERADE
OUT THERE IS
ALL ABOUT!

SHHH!
QUIET,
UNTIL
THEY'VE
GIVEN
UP AND
GONE!



THEY'VE GONE!
THEY GET SIMPLY
FURIOUS WHEN IT'S
MY TURN TO
COLLECT! NOW..
WHAT SEEMS
TO BE YOUR
DIFFICULTY?

WE DON'T KNOW.
WE WERE
DRIVING A
SHORTCUT TO
THE CITY WHEN
WE REACHED
THIS TOWN AND
WERE HALTED AND
CHASED BY THEM!



WEB OF EVIL

HMM! YOU'RE JOHN DRAKE, DUE 11:27 P.M. UNDERWORLD CONNECTIONS, GRAFT, HIT-ANO-RUN

BUT I'M NOT AND I CAN PROVE IT! I'M JIM DRAKE AND THIS IS MY BRIDE, BETTY! HERE,

MANSLAUGHTER... BUT NOT A WORD ABOUT THE GIRL!

LOOK AT MY DRIVER'S LICENSE..

OH, MY MASTERS! THEN LET US GO! ALL WE WANT TO DO IS GET IN OUR CAR AND GET OUT OF

THIS TERRIBLE SPOT!

GIVEN US THE SLIP, SOMEHOW!

THIS TERRIBLE SPOT!

THIS IS CURSED AWKWARD! YOU'RE ALIVE, YOU SEE... AND THAT DOES COMPLICATE MATTERS! THIS IS THE BASIC TRAINING

OH, PLEASE, PLEASE..! JUST LET US GO! OPEN THE DOOR..!

SPOT FOR THE DARK REALM BELOW! BUT YOU HAVEN'T EVEN BEEN DRAFTED..!



VERY WELL...IF YOU INSIST!

THERE THEY ARE! THE MASTER'S EMISSARY HAS GIVEN THEM BACK TO US!

YOU DIRTY RAT..!

TAKE THAT, YOU FILTHY DOUBLE-CROSSER!

EEFAAGHH!

GRAB THEM! DON'T LET THEM ESCAPE AGAIN!

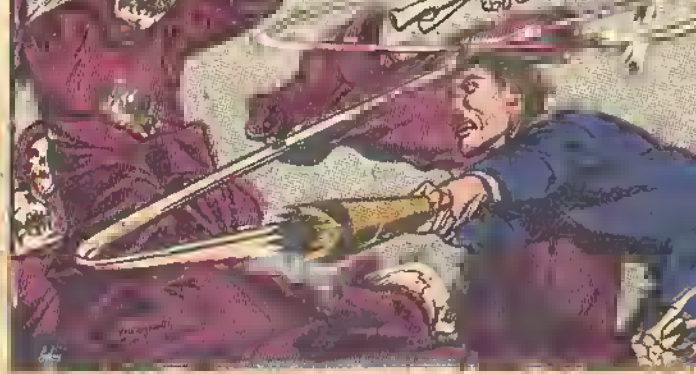


THEY DARED TO COME HERE ALIVE! TEAR AWAY THEIR LIVES AND MAKE THEM READY FOR TOMORROW!

GET BEHIND ME, DEAREST! THEY WON'T GET THOSE FOUL CLAWS ON YOU UNTIL I'M GONE!

CLOSE IN! PULL YOURSELVES TOGETHER AND GRAB THEM!

TRY IT, YOU BONY NIGHTMARES! COME AND GET US!



COME ON, DARLING! WE'LL TRY TO REACH OUR CAR!

THOSE HORRIBLE, HORRIBLE THINGS! WE MUST BE GOING MAD!

WE'LL NEVER MAKE IT! THAT CREATURE IS SIGNALLING TO OTHERS WITH THAT WHISTLE!

KEEP RUNNING! I'LL FIGHT UNTIL THEY OVERWHELM ME! YOU TRY TO REACH THE CAR AND GET AWAY, BACK UP THE ROAD WE CAME IN ON!

EEEK! WE'RE DOOMED! THERE ARE THOUSANDS OF THEM!

CLOSE IN ON THEM! THE MASTER WILL PUNISH US ALL IF THEIR SOULS ESCAPE NOW!

THEN WITHOUT WARNING—

ANOTHER VISITOR! STOP HIM QUICKLY!

THIS MAY BE OUR CHANCE, BETTY! BREAK FOR THE CAR!

DON'T LET HIM GET OUT LIKE THE OTHERS! SEE WHO HE IS! HOLD HIM!

WE'LL MAKE IT! JUMP IN AND HANG ON FOR DEAR LIFE!

WE MADE IT! I'LL TRY TO SWING AROUND THE BLOCK AND GET BACK ON THE ROAD!

THEY'RE ESCAPING! STOP THEM!

WE'RE GOING THROUGH .. EVEN IF A HUNDRED GET IN THE WAY!

NEVER MIND THEM! THIS IS THE JOHN DRAKE WE WERE SENT TO MEET!

WEB OF EVIL

LET THEM GO!
WE'LL PICK THEM
UP LATER, WHEN
THE TIME IS
RIPE!

FASTER, JIM..
FASTER!..
WE'RE
ESCAPING!

WE MADE IT!
HERE'S
THE MAIN
HIGHWAY
OUTSIDE
THE FRIGHTFUL
VALLEY!

THERE'S THE STATE
TROOPER AND
THAT FARMER
SIGNALLING
US TO
STOP!

WELL YOU CAN'T
SAY I DIDN'T WARN
YOU FOLKS! I
BET YOU HAD A
RIGHT HARROWIN'
EXPERIENCE, THE
WAY YOU LOOK!

STOP IT,
PETE! DON'T
SCARE THESE
FOLKS ANY
WORSE THAN
THEY'VE
ALREADY
BEEN
SCARED!

PERDITION VALLEY GIVES
OFF SOME KIND OF NATURAL
GAS AT NIGHT, WHEN THE
ROCKS COOL AND OPEN
UP, FOLKS! THE GAS
GIVES ALL KINDS OF
WEIRD VISIONS! FOLKS
HEREABOUTS STAY
AWAY AFTER DARK!

JUST FOLLOW THE
MAIN HIGHWAY TO
TOWN, FRIENDS,
AND FORGET ANY
HALLUCINATIONS
YOU HAD IN
THERE!

BOY WILL
WE OBEY
THAT ORDER
OFFICER!
THANKS A
MILLION! WE
WERE REALLY
SCARED!

J-JIM! L-LOOK!
THAT SHORTCUT
WAS ON THIS
MAP.. AND NOW
IT'S DISAPPEARED!
PERDITION
VALLEY ISN'T
EVEN MARKED
HERE!

AWRRK!
ARE YOU
SURE?
THAT'S THE
MAP I GOT
FROM THAT
WRECK!

OFFICER,
WHAT ABOUT
THAT MAN
WHO WAS
HURT IN
THE
WRECK?

HE DIED
ABOUT TEN
MINUTES AGO,
FOLKS! THE
DOCTOR SAID
BY ALL THE RULES,
HE SHOULDN'T
HAVE BEEN ALIVE
FOR THE LAST
HOUR!

BUT DON'T WORRY HE
WAS A BAD CHARACTER
NOBODY'LL MISS! MAYBE
YOU'VE HEARD ABOUT
JOHN DRAKE THE
RACKETEER!

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FEATURES

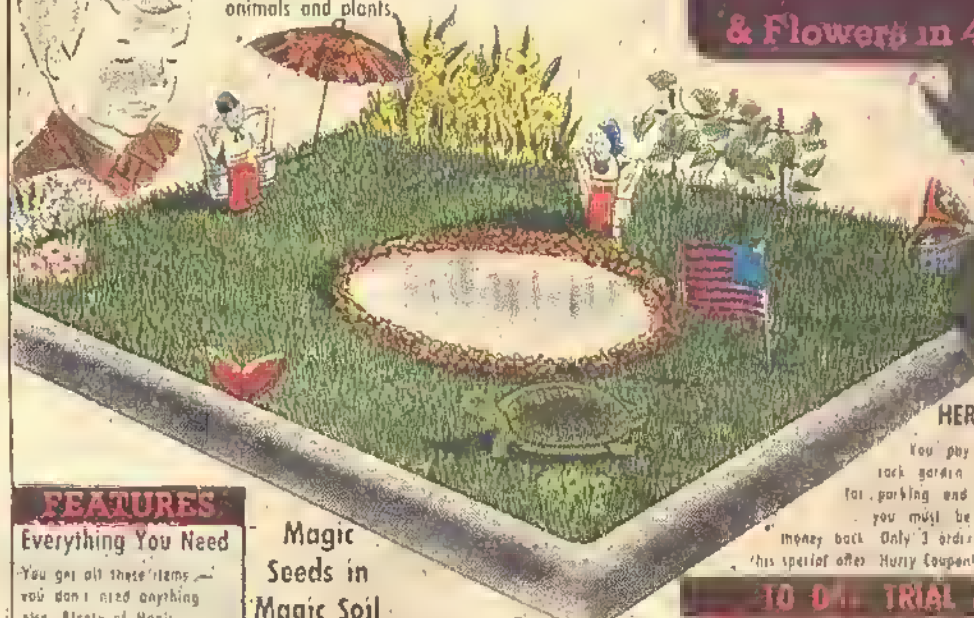
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DEPT. MA-179
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SEND FOR FREE OUTFIT!

Mr. Ned Mason, Dept. MA-179
MASON SHOE MFG. COMPANY,
Chippewa Falls, Wisconsin

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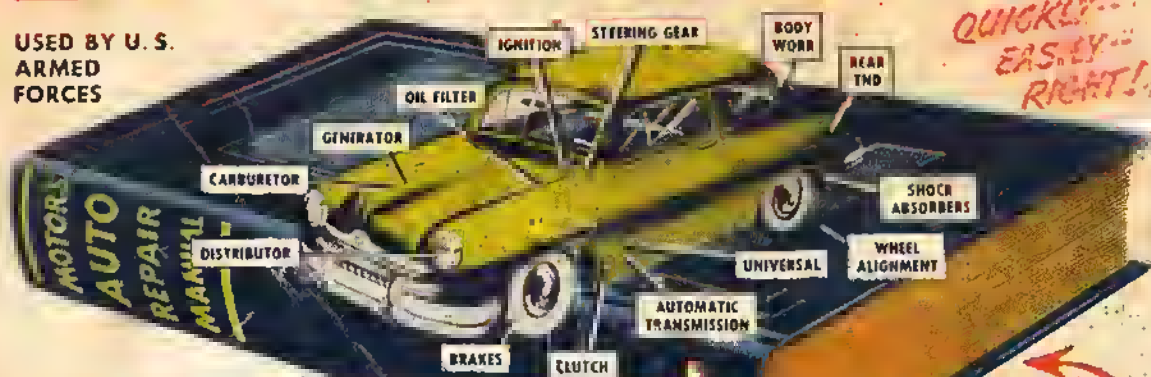
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